

The Tabloid

The woman who hooked Daniel Day-Lewis



The Tabloid

Sheryl Crow: a rocky road to gold



Comment

Suzanne Moore: Why I feel sorry for the boys page 21

Grey suits rap Major on blunders

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

Leaders of the 1922 Committee of Tory MPs - the men in grey suits - last night met the Prime Minister to discuss backbench unrest over Europe and anxiety that the Government is making too many hlunders on a range of issues.

The Independent learned that at a meeting earlier in the day of the 1922 Committee - the safety valve for backbench pressure - chairman Sir Marcus Fox reported deep unrest among. Tory MPs over the Government's handling of the partial ban on guns, combat knives and Europe which led to renewed conflict between the leadership and the Euro-scep-tic wing of the party. "There has been a total in-

ability to spot the pitfalls," said one senior Tory source.

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Laters.

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to go before the next election is dangerous for the Government because it exposes the fragile nature of Tory morale.

As the hurried meetings were being organised to quell Commons after he insisted that and for an Mawhining, the the litters, one Bry source on key decisions would be tak-said: "It's a mess-but we have on European Monetary normally would be the lightning had lots of messes."

In an extraordinary move meeting of European economic unrest about presentation, after Prime Minister's question and finance ministers (Ecofin) But the criticism is being ditime, at which John Major to be attended by Mr Clarke. rected at the proposed of Downing faced open hostility from his own Euro-sceptic backbenchers, the most senior fig-ures of the Tory backbench said they wanted a meeting with

Tory MPs tabled demands for a debate to block moves by the Prime Minister that the key de-European Commission to create a stability pact, which the Tory Euro-sceptics said could undermine Britain's opt-out from the single European cur-

They delivered their message in person to the Government chief whip, Alastair Goodlad. Senior members of the Tory backbench committee told The Independent they were con-cerned at the failure of the Government to turn the attack on Tory sleaze against Labour. over the secret funding of the private offices for Tony Blair. John Prescott and Gordon

Meanwhile, senior ministers were holding emergency meet-ings to prepare the way for a dene senior Tory source. failed to reassure Tory MPs that Such an open display of no key decisions would be taknerves with less than six months en by the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke at a meeting of European finance ministers on

European monetary union. to be attended by Mr Clarke. Mr Major said the decisions would be taken at the European summit in December.

cisions would be taken at the summit, and not by the Chan-

"I have written to the Chancellor asking him to confirm what the Prime Minister said that nothing would happen at the Ecofin," he said.

Mr Redwood's supporters said the Euro-sceptics had warned the Government they would vote against it if thi Prime Minister continued to resist the pressure for a full Commons debate before the Ecofin meeting early next

Government looks after our

Union at the forthcoming conductor for Tory backbench Street

John Redwood, the former Labour by Mr Mawhinney's Tory leadership challenger, team, but fear that the Prime wrote to the Chancellor last Minister's office lacks the poteam, but fear that the Prime The call came as around 100 night demanding a public as- litical punch needed to counter

cellor at the Ecofin meeting.

Former Paymaster General David Heathcoat-Amory, who resigned earlier this year to campaign against economic bate-to lance a growing hold with Mr Major in the Con-over Europe after Mr Major mons. He warned ministers mous. He warned ministers that it would be a great mistake to ignore MPs wishes.

"A warning has been put up — we all want to support the

Senior Tory MPs support the aggressive attacks on



joined by freezing one end to another used the same stump for the first two works many collapses

easier to work before sunrise and after sunset Andy Goldsworthy, Alaska, November 1995

exhibition "Wood" at London's Michael Hue-Williams Gallery.

Goldsworthy, one of Britain's most renowned artists, works entirely with organic materials - ice, leaves, thoms, stones, trees, sticks and mud - and has become internationally famous

similar shows In both San Francisco and New

This picture and the Inscription written and laid out by the artist to go with it (left) comes from his book, "Wood", just published by

INSTRUMENTS

FOR PROFESSIONALS

Commons probe Sinn Fein visit

and David McKittrick

The Prime Minister condemned the "stunning naivety" of three Labour MPs yesterday as he announced an inquiry into claims that they had let suspected IRA members wander aboutunaccompanied in the House of Com-

Responding to the report in yes-terday's *Independent* that the three had been called in by Donald Dewar, the Labour chief whip, to explain themselves, John Major told the Commons that the government had already written to Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker.

"My understanding is that these rep-esentatives of Sinn Fein were invited to the House to meet a number of Honourable Members, that no prior no-

To prolonged Tory cheers, he de-

clared: "I don't know what the outcome of this inquiry will be - but I think it is stunning naively of any Honourable Member not to realise the connection between Sinn Fein and the IRA."

Labour leftwingers Ken Livingstone, Jeremy Corbyn and Alan Simp-son met Mitchel McLaughlin, a leading figure in Sinn Fein, three

by members of the security services, who reported their concern to the Speaker that one of Mr McLaughlin's party had been unaccompanied on a visit to the toilet for 20 minutes. Miss Boothroyd is believed to have re-

ferred the report to Mr Dewar. But in an unprecedented public comment, MI5 "categorically" denied that it had "any involvement" in the events reported yesterday. The Speaker's office had no comment to make on which part of the security services had contacted Miss Boothroyd. Mr Livingstone yesterday accused

weeks ago in a cafeteria in the Palace whoever had complained about his for a walk around the place. The guy of Westminster. They were observed meeting with Sinn Fein of living in a was keeping an eye on him, so he went "fantasy world". But Jack Straw, the shadow Home Secretary, said complaints of security breaches were taken "very seriously" by Labour's leadership. Mr McLaughlin made no public comment, but Republican sources were privately scornful of the idea that senior IRA activists should have been in the Commons with Mr McLaughlin, one of the party's most

familiar faces on television. A Sinn Fein source said Mr McLaughlin had noted a bald-headed man with ginger hair paying attention to him. He added: "Mitchel took him

was keeping an eye on him, so he went for a wee walk, taking your man with him. "Mr McLaughlin's companions in the Commons were senior Sinn Fein member Bairbre de Brun, together with Frank O'Neill, a London-based

republican sympathiser.
As head of the party's international department, Ms de Brun is a wellknown Sinn Fein figure who has made many television appearances. Mr O'Neill is said to be a member of the Wolfn Tone Society but not a member of Sinn Fein. Neither has ever been linked with the IRA army council.

CONTENTS	
The Broadsheet Business & City22- Comment19- Foreign News12-	28 21 17
Gazette2-	10
Law Report Leaders and Letters Obituaries	19
Shares	26
Unit Trusts	28
Architecture	19

Classical Music ...16-18 Crossword22 Listings20, 21 Pop Music 23,24 Radio and TV ...23, 24 Style 4,5

Germany and France sought to calm nerves over the planned European single currency by insisting that the mark-france exhange rate does not need to he changed. The move was designed to quell speculation that the franc might be devalued before the scheduled launch of the Page 15 euro in 1999.

Emu fears

Tags for children Electronic tags could be used to exclude juvenile offenders as young as 10 from sports events and shopping areades, monitor them atschool and place them tinder house arrest. Penal reformers and probation officers described the proposals as un-

Graffiti winnings

Teenage pop groups, graffiu artists, juggles and acrobats wil be able to aphy for grants from the National Lottery fund. It is the first time people as well as buildings are eligible for moncy from the lottery. Page 5

Supermarket jobs Safeway is to create 5,200 jobs to staff 30 new superstores, half to be built next year and half the next year. Page 22

Eurotunnel chief admits breach in safety code

JAMES CUSIGK,

Eurotunnel admitted for the first time yesterday that safety officials knew on Monday night that one of the Channel train wagons was smouldering but planned not to stop the train unill it left the tunnel.
Why it stopped there in-

stead, putting staff and pas-sengers lives at risk, will be one of the crucial questions for the inquiries investigating the fire which has severely dented public confidence in the tunnel.

Eurotunnel's joint director Alain Bertrand, speaking in Calais yesterday, confirmed that two security guards had noticed the train "if not quite on fire, then smouldering" metres be-

fore it entered the tunnel. Mr Bertrand said that this in-formation was relayed to the was at least partially on fire. He control centre at Calais. Once said: "It was planned that the inside the tunnel, other safety fram should continue on its of the wagons five lorries away lish end of the tunnel.



and smoke and placed at two kilometre intervals had confirmed to both the control centre and another emergency

journey [some 50 kilometres] and go on to exit in England." He repeated: "It was not supposed to stop." More wagons from train

were brought out of the tunnel early yesterday morning. The charred and mangled remains of the louries inside the steel lattice of the freight wagons gave a horrific indication of the intense inferno they had faced inside the confines of the tunnel. Melted wheels and covers,

twisted and peeled cargo, torn away fibreglass, tons of damaged cargo and a severe stench of smoke clung to the first few lorries. Then came the wagons which were nearer the blaze. One looked as theirh it had simply melted, i argo of pineapples barbecned to ash, its wheels melted, leaving only a

crude skeleton of a vehicle. For Eurotunnel the worry now is: if this is the condition

from the epicentre of the blaze, what can the condition of the remaining five wagons still left in the numbel now be? The sight of them is likely to further horri-

fy potential passengers.
The Inter Governmental Safety Commission continued meeting in Calais for another lengthy session yesterday. There is no sign from the Commission that they are nearer to allowing either car or tourist passenger trains back into the tunnel. Only hulk goods trains have been given permission to use the remaining clear tunnel. In the week ahead, Euro-

learned lessons from the fire. British firefighters argued strongly that the breakdown in communications might have been caused by an over-complex chain of responsibility which caused a "balls up" at the Eng-

tunnel will have to persuade the

Commission they have already

Sinn Fein's tour, page 2 Close cooperation with pilots and aviation experts enables Breiding to continue improving its chronograph designs all the time. The Chronomat features a selfwinding mechanical movement, a Weather 22

CHRONOMAT

totating bezel and a screw-locked crown. This instrument is

Bomngg! And Aylesbury Tory David Lidington sprang from his green fily pad to question an agriculture minister about fruit shapes and sizes. Should they not, he asked, be a matter for the consumer, not for hureaucrats? Boiningg! he sprang back again and slumped - spent - his long legs akimbo and his head resting gently on the weaselly Nigel Evan's shoulder. Indeed. replied Tim Boswell (one of the small legion of ministers who protect our agriculture and defend our fisheries), he could reassure the honourable gentleman that the "small or-

It is a strange legacy of the post-war years of austerity that

A defenceless hlack man, who

later died in custody, screamed in agony as a group of police of-

ficers "hammered" him with

their heavy batons, ao inquest jury was told yesterday.

hlows." Susan Price recalled.

The mother-of-three, who

graphically described how sus-

pected burglar Wayne Douglas

had been pounced on like "dogs

getting hold of a cat", said she

had no idea how many times be

"But it seemed to go on for

Suddenly his cries stopped.

and minutes later she heard the

handcuffed 25-year-old "whim-

pering" as he was carried un-

moving, like a "trussed up

chicken" out of a children's park

in Brixton, south west London,

Former postman Mr Douglas

was then thrown face down

onto the floor of a police van

That caused the man to cry until tomorrow.

"like a sack of potatoes".

where he had been caught.

ages. He was screaming. I was

very distressed at what was

was struck.

happening.



DAVID AARONOVITCH

a quarter of a million Britons all told, should have a ministry and question time all of their own, when financial services (a million employees), has neither. But this arrangement does ange cox's pippin is safe in our make for moments of levity. For, no sooner bad Mr Lidington's question been satisfactorily resolved, thao Peter Atkinson (Con. Hexham) rose to ask

officer then knell oo his back he

once more shouted: "Aargh!".

was doing that justified him be-

the fourth day of the inquest

over an hour after his arrest on

ly outside Brixton Police Station

sparked widespread rioting in

he area which left a £1 million

The hearing at Southwark

Crown Court has heard that a

hunt for witnesses to evidence surrounding Mr Douglas's ar-

rest met "a wall of silence and

fear" from local residents re-

heen "frighteoed" of the police

and had not wanted to come to

court. This prompted coroner

Sir Montague Levine to assure

her she had nothing to worry

The hearing was adjourned

Ms Price said she, too, had

luctant to help police.

Two weeks later a protest ral-

December last year.

trail of damage.

about

JIYAJBE.

HATZAS

NUQ?

If you'd like to understand what's happening on

Sci-Fi TV. Radio Times Sci-Fi page will tell you

everything you need to know, and it's not in Klingon!

RadioTimes

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU EXPECT.

ing treated in that way," said Ms

She was giving evidence on

There was nothing that man

Inquest told of

man's screams

as blows fell

wiped tears from her eyes as she into Mr Douglas's death just

"I could hear the thud of the Price told the jury.

about the "establishmeot of a first probably refers to the city modest potato regime".

A modest potato regime? What is this? Government by modest potatoes, presumably. In the last 70 years we have witnessed fascist regimes. communist regimes, military regimes and theocratic regimes very few of them modest, as it happens), hut not potato regimes. One imagines that such a government would be solid, earthy, dull and stodgy. All the members of the cahinet would be dressed in brown sacks, hut would have different coloured arms, legs and

The minister did not clarify, hut rather confused the issue by referring to similar extant "fruit and vegetable regimes". The council of San Francisco; the second to what we have in Britain at the moment. It is the latter that Mr Atkinson would like to see ousted and substituted with his favoured potato

The potatoes would certainly pul a stop to the ahuses of Britain's hospitality cited by David Harris (Con, St Ives). He told the shocking tale of how a Nimrod aircraft had lifted a Spanish fisherman to the Cornish mainland, only to discover on arrival that he wasn't even ill! (Caramba!) And Spanish fishermen were "turning up in Cornwall and registering for cational insurance numbers"

(Madre de dios!). You can

rings and pulling on their cigarillos, as they lounged in the social security office queue, seeking an easy life on the

But even this is preferable to their habit of poaching our fish, while (according to Tony Baldry, the minister responsible), "masquerading as UK fishermen. They do this by shaving, slapping on Old Spice to hide the smell of gartic and calling everybody "matey". Barry Legg (Con, SW Milton

Keynes) urged the present regime to "take a leaf out of Sir Francis Drake's book, when dealing with the Armada..." And? "and press these matters at the IGC until they are satisimagine them waxing their factorily resolved". I took the

heavy tome on English history down from the shelf, and looked up "Drake, Sir Francis". And sure enough, Mr Legg was right. When, in 1588, the Duke of Medina Sidonia and his squadrons were sighted off the Lizard, Sir Francis calmly finished off his game of bowls, collected his briefcase, mipped on Eurostar and took his seat at the IGC. There, as Professor A.L. Elton reveals, Drake "pressed

conclusion". Subsequent mythology has embellished the event with nonsensical flourishes like fireships and storms. An incoming potato regime (modest or inmodest, it makes no difference) will put an end to such

the matter to a satisfactory

significant shorts

500ft big wheel Anti-rabies rolls ahead for controls millennium

The plan for a 500ft "Millennium Wheel" on the south bank of the Thames in London was approved by the Government last night. John Gummer; Secretary

of State for the Environment. described the £10m plan as "an inspired idea" for marking the millennium and said he had no plans to call in the planning application. The project would provide unparalleled, once-in-alifetime views of the heart of

the capital", he added in a Commons reply. The proposal, by the rehitects David Marks and Julia Barfield, is being funded privately with the backing of British Airways. The wheel will be in Jubilee Gardens next to the former County Hall. It will be used for five years, spanning the millennium. Picture, page 6

Farmer let 400 deer die

Deer on a farm "dropped like flies" through disease and malnutrition, a court was told. Around 400 died in seven months at Tremoorland Farm, Cardinham, Cornwall.

The manager of the 220acre farm, Robert Jasper, 40, pleaded guilty at Bodmin magistrates to causing unnecessary suffering. He earlier admitted falsifying records, and was fined a total of £500. The prosecution was brought after a police and RSPCA investigation.

The farm was run by Galtee Deer Care of Cork. southern Ireland.

Fumes hazard for families A council was fined a total of

£44,000 after tenants were put at risk from poisonous gas fumes.

Camden Council in north London was prosecuted after gas flues to up to 200 fires in living rooms of flats were disconnected by workmen and gas installations were not

Clerkenwell Magistrates Court was told the council was let down by private contractors but it accepted responsibility. Kurt Coelho, of the Health and Safety Executive, said the subcontractors had disconnected vents connecting the flues without telling the council. These had

not been re-connected when the work was finished. Mr Coelho said: "It could have led to carbon monoxide poisoning to anyone in the living room."

Pierre White scoops honour

The chef Marco Pierre White won the Egon Ronay Guide 1997 Restaurant of the Year title for his establishment in the basement of Hyde Park Hotel, London, The restaurant was cited for its sense of individuality in a grand hotel setting.

reviewed

The Government is looking again at its rabies control policy, taking account of the latest scientilic information, Angela Browning, junior agriculture minister, toki the Commons.

But she refused to comment on speculation that the Prime Minister has asked for a report on the current rahies and quarantine laws by the end of this mouth.

"If new moves are decided upon, an announcement will be made. But our paramount need is to protect the health of animals and people in Britain, she said.

Breakthrough for sick miners

Thousands of former miners with crippling chest diseases and former building workers afflicted with asbestosis will benefit from changes to the industrial injuries scheme announced by the Government.

After years of campaigning by miners' MPs, Peter Lilley, Secretary of State for Social Security, has changed the rules for compensation for pitmen with chronic bronchitis and emphysema. A wider range of occupations will also now qualify for compensation for asbestosinduced mesothelioma.

New hope on prostate cancer

Scientists are closing in on genes implicated in prostate cancer, which affects about one in five men, and the most common type of diabetes. The developments could lead to new therapies, or genetic screening against the diseases. A team at the National Institutes for Health in Bethesda, Maryland, US, said in the journal Science that it had narrowed the location of a gene mutation linked to bereditary prostate cancer. Millennium Pharmaceuticals of Cambridge. Massachusetts, said that it had identified the gene implicated in type II

Moving home risk for young

diabetes. Charles Arthur

Scientists have provided further evidence that childhood leukaemia may be a rare response to infection, and that this could explain apparent "clusters" of the lisease which have been reported since the 1970s. A team from Oxford University found "significant" trends in the incidence of certain types of leukaemia with the proportion of children new to a district. "In areas with high levels of inward migration, young children would tend to be infected earlier, producing o raised level of leukaemia in early childhood," they say in the British Medical Journal.

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

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Derry car bomb adds to fear of new violence A warning call had been received just before noon from the

yesterday after being retrieved by rescue crews

Army bomb disposal experts yesterday successfully defused a large car bomb which had been left close to an RUC station in Londonderry by a republican splinter group.

Although the device was not the work of the IRA it has increased general appreheosion that Northern Ireland could be sliding back towards violence on a larger scale.

The car bomh was dealt with by a motorised bomb disposal robot which managed to blow the device apart without setting off its main charge. The car was subsequently found to contain around 600lb of home-made ex-

IRA Continuity Army Council", which has been responsible for sporadic bomb attacks over the last two years. Most of its activities bave eoded in failure, hut the organisation, though small, is clearly becom-ing more amhitious.

The group is said by security sources to have a close relaionship with Republican Sinn Fein, the party set up 10 years ago by the veteran republican Ruairi O Bradaigh. He broke away from Sinn Fein because be believed it was moving from militarism and into politics.

The group's most destructive

ber an attempt to plant a car bomh, containing 250lb of ex-plosives, in Belfast city centre

One of the lorries which was destroyed in Monday's Channel Tunnel conflagration sitting on the French side

The incident caused concern in security circles, however, since it appeared to represent the organisation's first major op-eration in Belfast. The RUC and army will be reviewing security measures in the run-up to

Among scores of offices and businesses evacuated while the bomb was being defused yesterday was the office of SDLP leader John Hume, who is MP for the city. Mr Hume said: "The people responsible are the enemies of everyone. The peoDerry and Ireland. They have no friends here." Mr Hume added that he believed a new IRA ceasefire

could be brought about. He declared: "I have been in intensive dialogue with Gerry Adams and I know that a cease fire can take place. I also know that it is for real. I am quite pre-

pared to stick my whole reputation on that. The opportunity now exists to bring total and lasting peace, and I helieve the British government can briog that

Sinn Fein leaders bave recently said that proposals had beec conveyed to London, hut that no reply bad yet been re-

How Sinn Fein strolled through Westminster

Donald Dewar, the Labour chief whip, read the riot act individually to three Labour MPs Ken Livingstone. Jeremy Cor-byn, and Alan Simpson – in his room off the members' lobby.

The Chief Whip said it was matter of some sensitivity. It had been drawn to his attention. the MPs had put the House at some considerable and unacceptable risk.

A Labour source said: "He had been informed by the security services that people with Mitchell McLaughlin were directly involved with the IRA or connected with the IRA.

"He said this House had beeo the target in the past and could well be in the present and the future." said the source. Mr Dewar told the MPs that having the Sinn Fein members in the Commons had placed their Labour colleagues and the whole House at risk. One of the around the Commons, it was three said: "He told me I had easy for MPs to come and go.

Colin Brown looks at Labour's embarrassment over the republicans' controversial tour of the corridors of power allowed them to roam freely The security service, MI5, been invited by Mr McLaugh-yesterday took the highly un-lin to join them to discuss their

around Parliament and the security services had closely monitored their movements and wanted him to know of the risk. He appeared to have a report.

"My response was just to point out that Mitchell . McLaughlin had initiated it. He had already met a large number of members and that I simply had fitted into a slot where l was available that afternoon and they were already involved in other meetings."

"Plods", the café off the Great Hall used by the Commons police, seemed the perfect place for Sinn Fein leaders to meet MPs. It was quiet, and once inside the security ring

usual step of issuing a statement denying that they had contacted Labour about the Sinn Fein visit or had been involved in a surveillance operation at the Commons. Labour MPs had

been under the impression that Mr Dewar was acting on information supplied by MI5. A security source said: "MI5, categorically denies that it had any involvement in the events

leged in the story. It is not true that security service surveillance officers followed anyone into the House of Commons. And it's not true that the security service complained to the Labour Party. We were not involved in any way." Selected Labour MPs had

into the Ulster peace talks. They did not realise they were being watched from a nearby table by a group of security officers. from the House

of Commons dressed in casual clothes. The importance of security was etched in the walls at the

police canteen. The stonework is still scarred by an IRA bomb attack more than a decade ago. Mr McLaughlin and his two friends had spent a busy day touring all the main MPs' office blocks, where they had meetings with individual Labour MPs in

their private office suites. They

had been to Millbank, One

Parliament Street and the Nor-

agenda for getting Sinn Fein "They were trying to let people know that a lot of work was

going on to reconstruct the ceasefire. What they were really afraid of was that the Tories would for political reasons ensure that the hurdles were raised for Sinn Fein to enter the cross-party talks].

"They wanted people to imderstand the real danger. It would strengthen the hands of those who didn't want a cease-

fire," said one source. Decommissioning of IRA weapons - the issue on which the peace talks could founder - was hardly discussed. But the Labour MPs who met the Sinn Fein group found they had all fore Sinn Fein could hope to get into the talks.

One MP who met them said: "We left them under no illusions that the left in Britain were absolutely adamant that without the restoration of the ceasefire, there would no peace process and they needed to take that message back to the hard men in the IRA.

We all told them that what the IRA were doing was eroding the traditional support Sinn Fem had in Britain. We all told them the same thing: they would be throwing away the republic case by seeking to unleash another wave of indiscriminate bombings.

Mr McLaughlin also had an agenda. "He wanted Tony Blair; to distance himself from John Major by standing still. He didn't want Blair to try to match Major by putting more burdles

No contest: Emm Marianne Macd

Actor s

could the by anyon a surprise next Thu noth Branagh's kat play of thumby but Romerathe first hom film which cy Day and whale at a ileranged Dane on Ophria, While the er excitis the family example to 181 deliver.

in deletem, le th specific solutions collid niga oo ng and ad

Glonda Cooper

Children want the howework, takir tele meltild-care the birth of any bu

ed an ensitionali with their lather considered centi fare of the home More than nme dren said that a

be present at the child and 70 per co that he should leave atterwards Fathers should domestic duties tribute econom family if the mod divorced, the surv Chibben sull:

Anca Bentes the from thousands o taken by Linda 2 It will have a Beatles sough th

been released be tapes of a secret sion recorded: Roundhause in Paul McCartin Wife to edit at i tures of the g which have been

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make the Beatk



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Linda McCar

other photogr barred, and her the Beatles at The McCartn

ter Paul created tem last year in





and Sensibility (left), and Branagh with Winslett in the director'sforthcoming film version of Hamlet

Marianne Macdonald Media Correspondent

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Those who thought Shakespeare could not be improved will be in for a surprise next Thursday, when Kenneth Branagh's long-awaited screen-play of Hamlet hits the bookshops.

It offers the first and rather alarming insight into the three-and-a-balf hour film which opens on Valentine's Day and which stars Branagh as the deranged Dane and Kate Winslet as Opbelia. While the screenplay's cover credits the Bard's input, Branagh's name is in larger type, presumably in deference to the trouble Shakespeare's new collaborator has taken improving and adding to the play.

lished by Charto & Windus, uses the First Polio in its entirety. But after almost every speech, Branagh has added his own thoughts on the

Schwarzkopf mode", while after a gravedigger's speech he interjects: "Says Judge Ito." Later, the King and Queen are shown in bed. "Gertrude and Claudius have not been dis-

'At one point in the play Branagh describes the Danish king as going into Norman Schwarzkopf mode'

Some of his comments—none of cussing the weather!" Branagh gigwhich are heard—are bizarre and others surreal in the context of one Kmg and his courties walking down

the President on the way to a White House press conference." His crass approach contrasts em-

barrassingly with his estranged wife's Oscar-winning adaptation of another classic - Jane Austen's Sense and Sensibility, brought in by Emma Thompson at about half the length and with considerably more elegance. Coincidentally, it also costarred Kate Winslet.

Some of Branagh's comments are just off-the-wall. After Hamlet's speech — "I could be bounded in a mutshell and count myself a King of infinite space, were it not that I have. bad dreams"—Shakespeare's helpful collaborator remarks: "Oh no you don't. We've got you sussed."

Before the players perfor

Hamlet, we learn: "They're all terribly excited. This, although unusual, looks as if it will be a good gig."

claims: "Ooo. A bit narked are we?" When Hamlet tells Ophelia that a more badly, Branagh's statements of woman's love is brief, Branagh unthe obvious or his musings on mo-

'Oh, no you don't. We've got you sussed... Get on with it then, Einstein... Ooo. A bit narked, are we?'

derlines the point: "Bloody hell. Everyone knows who that's meant When Guildenstern reproves Hamlet's discourtesy - "If it shall olease you to make me a wholesome

tivation. After Hamlet tells Polonius: "Use every man after his desert, and who should 'scape whipping?' Branagh advises: "A passionate pica for kindness." When Hamlet tells

Thank Christ for that." And during the gravedigging scene, Branagh urges: "Get on with it then, Einstein." Branagh's low interjections after every fragment of dialogue makes it seem as if he is boorishly participating in every scene, this week's Times Literary Supplement cuttingly

It adds: "After a few pages of such stuff, the commentary begins to read as though it is the work of a mysterious interloper into the play, an extra and rather louche character, someone from EastEnders, say, who has found himself transported to Elsipore and left to make what sense he can of what on earth is going on as

Children want loving New Dads, not out-at-work lads

Children want their fathers to be "new men", helping with the housework, taking an equal role in child-care and attending the hirth of any hrothers or sis-

A study of 600 teenagers in east London found they wanted an emotionally committed, close and caring relationship with their fathers, whom they considered central to the welfare of the home:

More than nine out of 10 chil-dren said that a father should be present at the birth of their child and 70 per cent considered that he should take paternity. leave afterwards.

Fathers should also share domestic duties and still contribute economically to the family if the mother and father divorced, the survey reported in the Family Policy Bulletin found.

A new Beatles film is to be made

from thousands of photographs taken by Linda McCartney.

It will have a soundtrack of

Beatles songs that have never

been released before, including

tapes of a secret jamming ses-

sion recorded at the London

Paul McCartney is helping his wife to edit at least 4,000 pic-

Roundhouse in 1968.

the main breadwinner though, with one in three saying that carning money was the most important activity for them, followed by giving care and love and being involved in domestic

Most of the children in the study lived with both their natural parents. They were asked to keep daily diaries, which included the time spent with their parents and what activities they had done with them.

While friends were the most commonly mentioned people in the diaries, three-quarters mentioned their mothers and 65 per cent their fathers at least once a week. Haif the children in lone-parent households did not mention their absent fathers.

In two-parent households children reported spending more time with their mothers than their fathers every day just under six hours compared to four-and-a-half hours.

At weekends boys reported spending more time with their fathers than girls did and less time with their mothers.

Contact with fathers is greatest when both parents are working full-time, possibly because fathers may often work longer in households where they are Watching television together

was the most common activity for children and their parents, but talking to each other is said to be the most common fatherchild activity on Sundays. Go-ing out with fathers is more

common for boys than girls.
"Girls were more dissatisfied than boys with the amount of time fathers gave then, got less and were more likely to feel that their fathers understood them,", said Margaret O'Brien, professor of family studies and author of the report. "In the main, children reported being emotion-ally closer to their mothers

than their fathers. Fathers were chosen as the first port of call for only a minority of children and in three distinct areas: money, difficulty with mother and sport."

While children looked less favourably on full-time working mothers than those who worked part-time or stayed at home, fathers' employment habits seemed to have no impact on perceived levels of closeness or understanding.
"The father-child axis is in a

state of flux, some might say confusion," said Professor O'Brien. "Modern children want their father to be around. to share domestic space and familial concerns. But they don't appear to 'need' him in quite the same way as the mother. To ment and cultural patterns will change and shape new forms of relating between men and their

"It was a time of the creation and recording of songs like 'Hey Jude', 'Let It Be' and

The Long And Winding Road'.
"The pictures are not posed

but are informal and unguard-

ed, showing the Beatles inside

and outside the recording stu-

dios. It will be an extraordinary

He said that Linda McCart-

ney always had a camera with

her and continues to take photographs today. "While most women carry a handbag, she

carries a camera," he added.

The announcement of the

new film comes on the eve of the

opening of an exhibition of Linda McCartney's photogra-

phy called "Roadworks" at the

raphy, Film and Television in

Will you reunite a family separated in the chaos in Central Africa?



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Switch Issue

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National Museum of Photog-THE CENTRAL AFRICAN CHILDREN'S APPEAL

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tures of the group, none of which have been shown publicly before, to make a film known as a photofilm. Linda McCartney took the pictures between her first meeting with the Beatles in 1967 at

the time of the release of the Sergeant Pepper album, and the hreak-up of the group in 1970. She was allowed access when other photographers were harred, and her pictures show the Beatles at work and at

The McCartneys decided to make the Beatles photofilm after Paul created a new film system last year in which he took



Old snaps make new Beatle film

Don't let it be: the McCartneys' film will involve 4,000 photographs

two reels of Linda's pictures of the Grateful Dead and using computer technology made the still photographs move. It is understood the Beatles

film, not expected before the end of 1997, will reveal a rich and intimate photographic archive of the group.

A spokesman for the couple said: "Linda's pictores cover a dark period in the time of the Beatles when photographers were rarely invited in. It was the time leading up to the break-up of the group and covered the making of their last three al-

Bradford. She has a parallel show at the International Centre of Photography in New The exhibition is a new collection of pictures shot during nerly 30 years on the road tour

Liz Hunt Health Editor

Most family doctors still oppose home hirths despite Government support for them, growing demand from women for this type of delivery and strong evidence that the majority of such hirths are safe for der to give birth as they preferred. mother and child.

A new study suggests that as many as 10 per cent of women would like a home birth but "had obstacles placed in their way" by GPs who felt it was an "inappropriate" request.

Almost a third of women in the place of birth. study who had planned a home de-

plans and go to hospital for the hirth. In half these cases there was no medical reason for this change.

Less than four per cent of women in the study had a home hirth which was supported by an enthu-sent. siastie GP, and one in ten women

GPs, it was reported, had "reservations" about half of the booking requests for a home hirth, and many actively discouraged their patients from this choice. Two thirds of women said they had not been offered any option about the

One woman tried 12 different

labour, despite the fact she was a suitable candidate, having given hirth successfully at home previously without a doctor heing pre-

The study, carried out by a team at Newcastle University, concluded that the difficulty women face in obtaining a home hirth is largely due to GPs' fear of complications influenced by their experience of problematic hirths during their hospital training. The availability of "flying squad" support in the event of a crisis and an emergency admission to hospital was also a con-

Writing in tomorrow's issue of the

pared to provide care during British Medical Journal, the researchers say: "Probably [GP re-luctance] also rises from a misunderstanding of their role and of the accountability of midwives as well as from an exaggerated idea of what is expected from general practi-

tioners, who despite obstetrie training are unlikely to have maintained their skills." Midwives, who were also quesdoned for the study, reported a failure of professional support from doctors and a shortage of adequate

equipment such as mobile phones,

and cylinders of nitrous oxide

Women told the researchers that

felt in control and this positive feeling persisted even in those women who had to be transferred to hospital from home during labour. In the 1960s a third of all hirths

occurred at home but the incident fell to an all-time low in 1987 when it accounted for just 0.9 per cent of all deliveries. Nine years on, the fig-ure has risen to just under two per cent, despite a groundbreaking Government report in 1993, Chang-ing Childbirth, which suggested that it should be an option for all

The Newcastle researchers investigated 256 women in the North-ern region who expected to deliver they liked home hirth because they in 1993 and whose request for a

carried. Of the remainder, 57 per cent delivered at home. There were 17 per cent Caesarean sections but no perinatal deaths. About 30 per cent of women were referred to hospital for delivery before labour, and 14 per cent were admitted from home during labour.

In a second study in the BMJ, the Northern Region Perinatal Mortality Survey Co-ordinating Group reviewed all perinatal deaths in the region associated with planned or unplanned births putside hospital between 1981 and 1994.

There were 134 deaths in 3,466 births outside hospital, about four times the death rate in hospital.

home birth was known. Five mis- However, 97 per cent of deaths occurred in women who were booked for hospital delivery or who had no pre-arranged delivery plan, confirming that unplanted home births; were hazardous.

The perinatal nulcome for planned homebirths was better for all women giving birth in the region, a finding confirmed by Swiss and Dutch studies of home birth in the same issue of the BMJ which conclude that home births is extremely safe for healthy women at low risk of complications. Women who opted for hospital births were at higher risk of induced labour. Cacsarean section, forceps, vacuum extraction and episiolomy.

livery were made to change their doctors but could not find one pre-'I said I'll have the baby on the sitting room floor'

After a difficult first labour, Sarah Jewell decided to stay home second time around

and ended up with me lying flat on my hack on a hospital bed with a drip to speed up the contractions stuck into my hand tied around my belly.

apprehensive about booking in for a home birth for my second child, but I also knew that I wanted to try and avoid the whote horribte hospital expe-

When my waters broke in the middle of the night, a week before due date, I thought I was in for another incredibly long labour. But by the time my midwife arrived an hour later the contractions were so strong and frequent that I was unable to move from the position I had the midwife said that I was found the most comfortable kneeling over the sofa in the sit-

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The midwife examined me and to my surprise said that i was already in established ting room.

My first labour lasted 36 hours labour and that the baby would

She asked where I wanted to have it and I said just here, on the sitting room floor, and my and a foetal heartbeat monitor husband laid out a huge plastic dust sheet - the only thing The pain was so intense and that I had bought in prepara-

carpet.
I grabbed the nozzle of the cylinder of gas and air that the midwife had brought with her and sucked hard to try and cope with the increasingly bad pain

I felt a moment's panic at the thought that this was it, I really was at home and giving birth and there was no way now that I could get in an ambulance pr go to hospital. But my fears rapidly turned to elation when ready to start pushing the baby

The intensity of the labour was matched by the intensity of peace and quiet in my own sit-



Sarah lewell and her new baby. At home, with the lights dimmed, made it a very special experience

This was what made having a home birth so special. In the silence of the night with the lights dimmed and the midwife beside me, I could totally con-

visualise where the baby's head was inside me.

I felt relaxed and in control and when I felt the urge to push I gave one centrate on working through the pain massive heave and then felt an inof each contraction and I could even credible, explosive "pop".

Minutes later my toddler came in home birth is not having to be moved smile of contentment on my face.

"That's it, the head is out," said the the room and said that he didn't like to a swelteringly hot maternity ward

- midwife. My sense of joy and relief was the cream (the vernix) on her head overwhelming and on the next con- and he went off with my hushand to traction the body slithered out and she make tea for us all.

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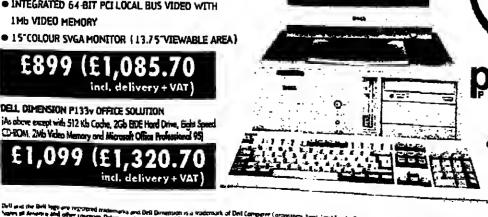
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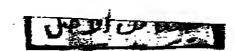
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David Lister Art. News Editor

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Stephen Goods Hentage Correspon

Sir Joselyn Stever man of Unglish II terday kept the stay on as the char er of the nation's quit in protest at sp With the Budge week mear. Sir disc

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Pris woul

Jason Benneti Ctime Confessions Schemes to alke inmates and their ing visiting hour

by a chief prison terchy. Chie Farwegt spector of Prisa land, and that all al rights" for off help keep Scotte ful. His annual rep a Canadian systeri milies are allow three-day visit

chalets within th can include sexu But he draws ! ommending a sim Scotland its pu would be oppose

The report

Licensed to scribble: lottery to give funds to graffiti artists

David Lister Arts News Editor

Windshirland

Teenage pop groups, graffiti artists, jugglers and acrobats will all count as "good causes" and be able to apply for National Lottery money under a new scheme announced yesterday. The scheme, to be adminis-

tered by the Arts Council and approved by the Government, marks the biggest change to the way the lottery rewards good causes since it began.

It means that for the first time people as well as buildings can get lottery money. Actual artists singers, actors or circus performers - can receive funds. Lottery money will also be used to keep ticket prices down at

theatres, operas and concerts. Applicants for the money will have to raise some "partner-ship funding" themselves from private sources, but last night that task was eased by a dramatic gesture from impressario over the oext five years to help partnership funding.

Arts For Everyone, as the new scheme is known, will come into force next January; and £20m of lottery money will be spent on it in the first year. It will give lottery grants of be-tween £500 and £500,000 to applicants that will range from youth groups painting murals on legally supplied sites around an inner city area, to theatre in education projects, to hire costs of studios for young rock bands, to ticket price reductions.

Questioned whether lottery money would go to fund young people to paint graffiti in public places, Tony Robinson, vice president of Equity who has scheme, said: "The short answer is yes. But not for illegal work. The idea of freeing people up to do graffiti art is good. It's a dangerous scheme in that it will be easy to write knocking stories about and trivialise.

The new direction in the lot-



Council that lottery money confined to capital projects such as

The new scheme has two building renovations was not bestreams of money on offer: the ing seen to help actual artists, main programme, which will

and an "Express" scheme which will give betweeo £500 and £5,000 to small groups who

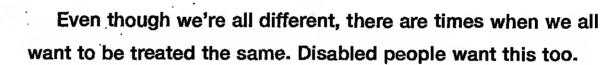
secretary general of the Arts Council. "is that Arts For

give to arts organisations. Through working with audiences, and commissioning more new work, they will be able to

the world. We will give money to community groups and ourreach work: for audiences and participants, and getting mon-



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Heritage chief warns against further cuts

Stephen Goodwin

Sir Jocelyn Stevens, the chairman of English Heritage, yesterday kept the Government guessing over whether he will quit in protest at spending cuts.
With the Budget less than a

week away. Sir Jocelyn made no response to a very public invitation by Virginia Bottomley, Secretary of State for Heritage, to serve for a further three years. English Heritage was peering the start of each year. If cuts into "a potential abyss", he were severe, EH might not be said at the launch of the quango's annual report and ac-

counts. This year EH got a Government grant of £108m, but it has been instructed to plan for a £45m reductioo in real terms over the oext four years. "We are very near the point. where further cuts would put us in an impossible situation," the



BER ONE.

sualties could be England's ceived £4.3m for urgent repair

and conservation work. Sir Jocelyn's worry is that with heritage projects increasingly funded from the lottery, minisstay on as the charismatic keep-er of the nation's treasures or going commitments, including its work with local authorities churches, stately bome owners and its advisory role.

He even speculated on the

"nightmare" of EH going bank-rupt. Some 85 per cent of its funding is already committed at able to honour its promise of money when, for an example, a home owner had completed work on a new roof. "We would be defaulting on our payments. It's horrible to contemplate. The Commissioners and I could not sit there and accept that because the credibility of the organisa-

tion would be at stake. After a lavish breakfast in the redeveloped Oxo Tower over-looking the Thames, Mrs Bottomley asked Sir Jocelyn, aged 64, to stay on in the £44,000 a year roost when his five-year. year post when his five-year term ends in March. The invitation was made "on behalf of

the Government and the Prime Minister", she said. But the former managing director of Express newspapers made no response. "It was a slight surprise. I have never been propositioned in public like that before," he said after-wards. He would like to stay on see his vision of a Stonehenge Millennium Park become reality but he sees "no point" if English Heritage cannot do its job.



Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

Schemes to allow sex between inmates and their partners during visiting hours were praised by a chief prison inspector yes-

Clive Fairweather, Chief In-spector of Prisons for Scotland, said that allowing "conjug-al rights" for offenders could help keep Scottish jails peace-ful. His annual report highlights a Canadian system, in which families are allowed to make three-day visits to private chalets within the jail - which can include sexual relations.

But he draws back from rec-ommending a similar system for Scotland as public opinioo

would be opposed to it.

doubling visiting times for pris-oners in Scotland in a bid to help offenders keep calm and drug-free. The report said it was impressed by the Canadian example, although if believes there could be a more "dignified" conjugal visiting system than those already operating in some European countries.

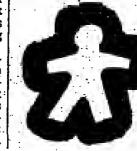
It called for improved family visiting facilities, arguing that families are the most important factor in helping prisoners break the habit of re-offending

when they are released. The question of sexual relations within jails was raised in a chief inspector's visit to Maidstone, in Reot, in June, when it was reported that prisoners were engaging in intimate beould be opposed to it.

The report recommends of other families and children.







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disabllity – on the agenda

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Tags to monitor errant children

Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

Electronic tags could be used to exclude juvenile offenders as young as 10 from sports events and shopping arcades, monitor them at school and place them under house arrest, the Gov-

The proposed scheme to monitor young criminals via wrist and ankle tags was described as unworkable by penal reformers and probation officers. Labour and the Liberal Democrats accused the Government of using the an-nouncement to distract attention from a highly critical Audit Commissinn report that describes the juvenile justice system as meffective and expensive. One of the report's key recommendations was to divert a large proportion of juvenile offenders out of the courts.

As predicted earlier this month in The Independent, the Home Office yesterday announced an amendment to the Crime Bill to provide courts with a new punishment to tag offenders aged 10 to 15 as part of a curfew order. In outlining the proposals the Home Office minister David Maclean indicated that the new sentence could be used in a wide range of areas, not just confining teenagers to their homes.

He said: "We believe that curfew orders could be an effective way of keeping young offenders off the streets or away from places such as shopping centres and football matches, where they may be up to no good. Young offenders could be

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night or at certain times during the weekend. They could also he required to be at school during school hours.

"Electronic tagging will de-tect immediately whether the of-fender is breaking the curfew." Under the proposal the curfew period would last between 2 and 12 hours for up to three months. Courts can include in any curfew order a "bind-over"

condition on the child's parents

or guardian. If the order is

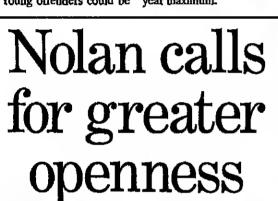
hreached the mother or father

would be liable to a fine. Typi-

cal crimes which might result in tagging include vandalism and minor public order offences. Mary Honeyball, general secretary of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation, said: "If a child is constantly pushing against authority, breaching a curfew enforced by a tag simply becomes another opportunity to cock a snook at the adult world, and the tag it-

self will be worn as a trophy. Up to 50,000 young affenders could be eligible for the tags, although only a tiny proportion would expect to be fitted.

■ The Government also proposes to introduce tough new penalties on 10- to 17-yearolds who commit indecent assault on adult males. Under an amendment to the Children and Young Persons Act 10- to 14-year-olds, who currently cannot be jailed for the offence, would receive a maximum 10-year sentence. Offenders aged 15 to 17, who at present have a maximum of two years' detention, will also face a 10-



Anthony Bevins

A direct and defiant challenge to the Government to make some civil servants openly accountable to Parliament was made by Lord Nolan last night. The chairman of the official

Committee on Standards in Public Life suggested in a lec-ture at Warwick University that the hive-off of Whitehall work to agencies had blurred lines of accountability that were already weak.

Concerned about that problem, the Commons Public Service Committee recently announced: "The obligation to provide full information and to explain the actions of Government to Parliament means that ministers should allow civil servants to give an account in Parliament through select committees where appropriate - particularly where ministers have formed delegated functions to them."

But the Government replied a fortnight ago that it was not prepared "to breach the longstanding basic principle that civil servants, including the chief executives of Next Steps agencies, give an account to Parliament on hehalf of the ministers whom they serve..."

Summing up the Governof official Next Steps agencies.

ment position, Lord Nolan said the Government was retaining complete control over the concept of accountability even though the accountability of ministers to Parliament was geared to the Government majority.

"It is like the Lilliputians trying to tie down Gulliver," Lord Nolan stated. "We would be better off acknowledging that ministerial accountability is interpreted in the light of prevailing political circumstances and avoid disappointing our-

selves with its application."

But in a direct and pointed attack on the "very centralist" nature of the Government position, Lord Nnlan said: "If accountability is only through ministers, in respect of an agency with hundreds of offices and thousands of clients, the

chain is too long."

He continued: "The person who should he answerable perhaps at local level - remains shielded from public view, and true accountability is weakcned.

Lord Nolan said that the weakening of accountability was being aggravated by the removal of powers from local authorities and the devolution of Whitehall work into quan-

Hospitals can be bad for your health

Christian Wolmar Westminster Correspondent

Visiting nr working in hospital can land you in hospital, according to a report by the National Audit Office which shows

that an estimated million accidents occur every year in NHS acute hospitals. The NAO decided to investigate the question of accidents in hospitals after several trusts

reported widespread concern at the high rate of injury which occurred within hospitals. The NAO found that there were no set procedures to assess the scale of the problem or to tackle it. A survey of 30 hospital ted that there were around 450,000 reported acci-

dents in acute hospitals each year, but fewer than half are recorded. The mishaps cost the NHS at least £154m - some £12m last year in immediate costs, such as treatment, plus at least £142m in longer term items such as sick leave.

Three quarters of the accidents in hospitals involved patients or visitors, who tend to suffer from slips, trips and falls. while for staff the main type of accidents are needlestick and back injuries caused during manual handling and physical

The NAO says that many accidents are preventable.

Health and Safety in NHS Acute Hospital Trusts in England, NAO, £8 95

Putting a spin on the Millennium



An artist's impression of the £10m Millennium Wheel, to which the Government gave the go-ahead last night. At 500ft the ferris wheel will dominate the South Bank of the River Thames, in the shadow of Big Ben, for five years

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

John 7/10 His responses to Blair we orang, but much of the

on European reports on a single currency before December, what the see could be decided by ministers. Major replied that decisions would only be could be decided by itterstate weight and there would be a debate in the

Biair then quoted from the Chancellor's letter, which suggested that minutes might make inevocable decisions before the summit. He claimed there was to be no debate because Major was afraid what Clark might say.

THEMES OF THE DAY
The reported IRA visit to the Houses of Parli

(Elizabeth Peacock, C.Batley and Spen) Audit Commission report on yearth crime (Paddy A *Labour Spending plans (Dame Angela Rumbold, C. Mitchem and Morden)
*House of Lords reform (Tony Banks, Lab. Newhern NW)

back with a polished set of condemna Banks - Asking why Major would not support Lords relently "Could it be that the boy from Brixton has got the feeling to

red as the nob from Brixton?" UNANSWERED QUESTION Peter Hain (Lab. Neath) - "How much will the Prime Minister's

proposals to abolish capital gains fax and inheritance tax cost the average taxpayer?"

"abandonment" of spending pledges: "Didn't today's press indi-cate Labour's answer to the question "when is a pledge not a pledge? Is "when it is a commitment"; will my Rt Hon Friend gave this House the pledge that he will continue to speak clearly and without..." the rest was drowned by learner. Darne Jill Kelght (C. Birmingham Edgbaston) - On Labour's

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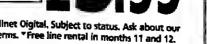
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to sink old memories

The last time the QE2 set sail after a refit, the swimming pool was full of rubbish and the theatre was stacked high with mattresses, writes Charlie Bain.

Today the Cunard liner is due to dock at Southampton for a £12m refurbishment the first since the "voyage from hell" two years ago.

That time contractors missed their deadline and work continued en route to New York resulting in massive compensation claims But now the ship-repair firm A&P Appledore says it can complete the work by 12 December and will have 1 (10) pairs of hands working round the clock to finish the job before a three-night cruise.

Report blames teachers for bad behaviour

Education Correspondent

Poor discipline and boring, badlymanaged lessons are often respon-sible for school exclusions, according to a report published by schools' in-

spectors yesterday. The finding, produced as ministers announced that more than 11,000 pupils were being permanently excluded each year, has provoked fury that there was an unacceptable variamong teachers' unions. They have ation in schools' practice over ex-

lence by pupils and parents and have called for more exclusions in a number of high-profile cases. Ofsted, the national inspection

body, says that children quickly learn to exploit inconsistent discipline, poor teaching and a chaotic asmosphere.

Inspectors who visited almost 40 schools in 16 local anthorities found

chosion. While some were far too ready to exclude pupils, others were so reluctant to do so that both staff and pupils suffered, their report

David Moore, the inspector in charge of the survey, said that in one case boys were excluded for three or four days for failing to wear a tie. In another, children who started

the day sitting attentively "like Sher-pa Tensing, with their knapsacks and

difficult after a form period in which to deal with more serious cases. Mr Moore added that pupils w der, had thrown work given as a punishment into the bin and had released them early to create a disturbance in the corridor.

Some schools failed to impose their own rules consistently, he said, and children took advantage of the resulting confusion.

Chris Woodhead, the chief in-Mr Moore added that pupils with spector of schools, said that most absent fathers, even those who were often away on business, were more

into trouble. Successful schools, according to the report, had effective and consistent systems of sanctions and rewards, monitored exclusions

schools were orderly and calm "I do oot accept that pupils across likely to break school rules and to get

the country are out of control and that schools are blackboard jungles. Effective schools don't rush immediately to exclusion unless something totally unacceptable hap-

Ability:

clusion of up to 60 pupils at The Rid-ings School in Halifax, reacted an-grily yesterday, Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the NASUWT. said the report carried a "dangerous" message, that boring lessons gave pupils the right to misbehave.

"It is unrealistic to expect every one to be on top form every day. The fact that they might fail to achieve the day sitting attentively "like Sherpa Tensing, with their knapsacks and overcoats on," became increasingly

In others, staff sent pupils to rigorously, provided a strong pastoral system and tailored their lessons to fences, leaving them with little time interests and abilities.

Teachers unions including the haviour and certainly no excuse for overcoats on," became increasingly their lessons to fences, leaving them with little time interests and abilities.

Seven

Mixed

light

pupils.

11 girls, 11 boys Introducing sound and

Start of lesson spent on

administration. Teacher

organise who sits where.

Explanation is rushed

and unclear. Teacher's

appropriate, worksheet unintelligible to some

Desultory conversation.

unrelated to the task.

Pupils wander about, are

dependent on the teacher for guidance and support. Some larking about by

boys. No progress, much noise, no learning.

language sometimes not

has difficulty being

heard. No attempt to

Good and bad lessons compared

Good Lesson

7 girls, 9 boys .

Establishing starch levels in plants

Clear explanation and

principles and of the

Questions used well to

check understanding. Clear rules on

behaviour and use of

lab. Time set aside at end to recap

Quiet, methodical and

attainment at the level

responsible work.

Progress and

task, aided by

blackboard diagram

definition of underlying

Mixed

Seven (11 year-olds)

ng you all t



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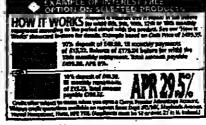


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No evidence Pill posed higher risk

Health Editor

The "third generation" con-traceptive pills at the centre of a major scare last year, pose no higher risk to public health than other brands of oral contraceptives, according to the European Commission.

The statement by Martin Bangemann, the European Commissioner with responsibility for licensing medicines. raises new questions about the controversial Government ad-vice to 1.5 million British womeo in October 1995 to change from these Pills to older, cheaper, brands.

The ensuing panic led to thousands of unplanned preg-nancies, and has been blamed for almost 3,000 extra abortions in England and Wales in the first quarter of 1996, a rise of 6.7 per cent on 1995. This is the highest figure since 1991, according to the Office of National Statistics which released the figures yesterday. Chris Smith, Labour's

spokesman on health, yesterday "bungling" the Pill safety issue. seemed to be ignored in the In addition, maternity units pressure for action." around the country have rebirth rates of up to 25 per cent. The Government acted after

the Committee on Safety of Medicines had assessed the findings of three uppublished studies which linked third generation Pills, containing the synthetic hormones desogestrel and gestodene, with an in-creased risk of blood clots.

Analysis of the same data by the European drug safety ad-visory committee subsequently coneiuded that no action was necessary other than informing women of the possible inlead in advising women against

Further analysis and submissions by the Pill manufacturers to the Committee for Proprietary Medicinal Prod-uets, which advises EU members, fouod no reason to issue new advice or change the product licence for the drugs.

In a written reply to a ques-tion by Graham Watson, a Liberal Democrat MEP. Mr Bangemann said: "Following that consideration it was con cluded that from a public health point of view, there was no evidence that the major benefits of risks are different for desogestrel or gestodene containing oral contraceptives...'

The Department of Health has consistently refused to admit that it mishandled the Pill alert, although Sir Kenneth Calman, the Chief Medical Officer, conceded in his annual report for 1995 that "the absolute risk [of a blood clot] is very small in all types of oral contreceptives, and much smaller than the risk of pregnancy ... The message to continue to take ccused the Governmeon of the oral contraceptive pill.

Health ministers are still purported higher than expected suing a change to the licence for third generation Pills, to position them as "secood line" contraceptives. The manufacturers are fighting this and their appeal will be heard by the CSM on 28 November.

Market share for the seven brands affected has follen from 40 to 10 per cent.

Dr Andrew Watt, a drug safety expert and former De-

partment of Health employee, yesterday said that "it remains my view that one and a half millioo British women were caused unnecessary anxiety by subcreased risk. Only Germany standard and sloppy considerand Norway followed the UK ation of incomplete data".

Judith Judd

Teaching pupils how to think is the key to their success in national tests and exams, according to research published today.

Even when they are taught to think only in science lessons. their performance improves in English and maths, the report from King's College London says.
The five-year study involving

4,500 pupils compared the performance of those taught "thinking science" with those who were not.

Researchers found that the result was the equivalent of raising the national average of those getting grade C and above at GCSE in science from 42.8 per cent to 63.8 per cent. In

'Schools in the scheme doubled numbers getting higher grades'

maths, the figure would rise from 40.2 to 56.4 per cent and in English from 50.4 to 63 per cent.

In the national tests for 14year-olds, schools in the programme more than doubled the proportion of pupils getting the higher grades in all three

Lessons in the Cognitive Acceleration through Science programme encourage children to think about their own thinking and to discuss with each other how they tackled and solved

problems set by the teacher. The programme, based on the principles of learning established by the educational

Are Thi

of 1

the first two years of secondary school. Time spent learning to think has to be deducted from time normally spent acquiring scientific knowledge.

Dr Philip Adey, director for the Advancement of Thinking at King's, said: "The aim is to get children to think about their own thinking, to ask what they thought about something when they started the lesson, what they think now and why it

The lessons explore variables, proportionality, ratio, probability and correlation.

In probability, for instance, the teacher may start a discussion about risk with five cups of tea and ask whether it makes any difference whether the milk is put in first. Pupils have to guess whether the milk was put in first in each cup of tea. The teacher asks bow many the pupil has to get right before the rest of the class believe he or she can guess correctly.

Dr Adey said: "The issue is

not how many does she have to get right before you believe her. It is one of confidence and the level of risk you are prepared to accept. You can move on then to discuss the risk of lung cancer or leukaemia.'

Professor Michael Shayer, programme director, suggested that the method might affect pupils' performance in Eng-lish as well as science because it taught them how to handle many variables. "In an English comprehension you are asking

how does this relate to that." Marina Lecky, who has taught the programme at Grey Coat Hospital School In London, said teachers had to learn to ask children a question to help them to move on rather than giving them the answer. Her class had told her that psychologists Piaget and their hrains hurt after a "think-Vygotsky, is offered to pupils in ing" science lesson.

Learning the pas de deux in two easy steps





The choreographer Ashley Page, left, passing on expertise to William Trevitt during rehearsals with Christina McDermott, right, for the Royal Ballet première of Page's new work Two Part Invention. The ballet, which opens at Covent Garden on Tuesday, features music by Prokofiev and the American, Robert Moran

Photograph: Laurie Lewis

Students are better off than ever before

Glenda Cooper

Students have more money now in real terms than they did before loans were introduced, but they are having to work

and borrow to get it, a study has found. Two-thirds of students now work either in term-time or holidays to get through college, while half have taken out a student loan. But while younger students have more cash at their disposal, mature students and

lone parents are finding it increasingly difficult to make ends meet.

The Policy Studies Institute interviewed nearly 2,000 students and butions now cover the basics while what found that average income rose from £3,031 in 1988/9 (equivalent to £4,143 at today's prices) to £4,559 in 1995/6.

Much of the increase in student income was from earnings or money borrowed against future earnings, including student loans. Those two sources amount to 40 per cent of stu-

dent income, three times the propor-

tion of seven years ago. Grants, loans and parental contristudents can earn, save and receive in gifts cover any extras. The biggest expense was accommodation, which averaged £1,180.

Although a tenth of students' spending was on alcohol and tobacco (£511) that was no more than other under-30s in the red. living independently on low incomes.

of students now work, with average earnings up from £238 to £625. Half worked 10 hours a week during term-A quarter of students owed nothing

than in 1992/3 and those who did also

earned more in real terms. Two-thirds

at the end of the 1995/6 academic year although on average they were £839

Douglas Trainer, president of the

More students worked in 1995/6 National Union of Students, said that the findings did not mean students were in a better situation. "Students are forced to take out significant amounts of money through loans which we have never thought is a practical way to survive." he said. "The Student Loans Company is costing the country mil-

lions of pounds." ☐ Student Finance, available from BEBC Distribution on 01202 715 555.

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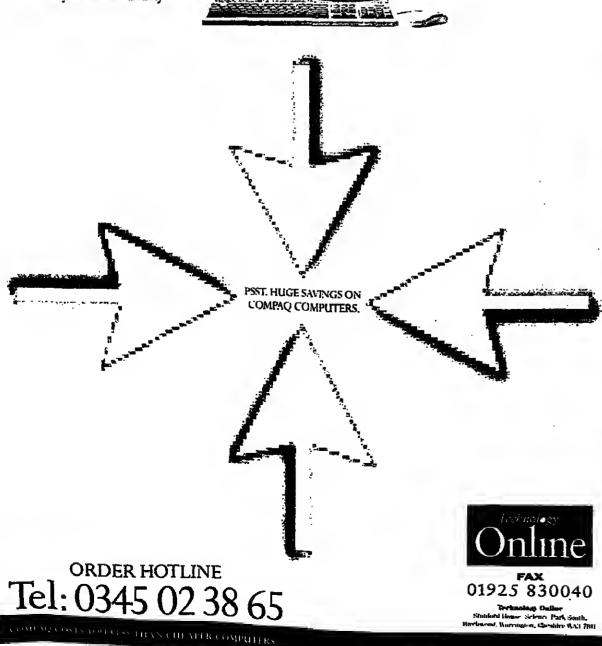
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The mor after the before, No country m English my was pleas surprised. Michael St

Survey a hangers in the lingles has The te ste of this the trainers out Photografe. go as a market but h of the real confidence Martiners our Anglothe of Labellium - A and of finglish

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in the cafe and were sime wine, the reacti ilarly favourable. 😭 Macon Chardonnay In fact, whether civic hangover or 1 of the product, it w sible to trust anyon a had word for

A Song for By John Dryden loom harmony, hy

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William the holler

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Stationer, Hall, 1

after the night

FEFENDENT

the heart of Beaujolais territory was modest, but the contents of the raid could have wider implications on Anglo-French cultural relations - a handful of cases of English "nouveau"

On the day that France and the rest of the world celebrated the uncorking of the season's Beaujolais Nouvean, the new soodie magazine EatSoup decided to return the compli-ment. In an overnight operation it drove over four cases of Enghish-murtured wine to test on one of France's proudest wine-producing regions.

There was an air of tension as the people of Beaujen, still suffering from drinking and dancing until 6.30am, loosened their palates to taste this foreign drink. But when it came the verdict was universal - the upstart English wines were "agreables".

The town's mayor, Paul Plazanet, was almost ecstatic about the taste and bouquet of the 1996 Three Choirs white English table wine, bottled in Neweot, Gloucestershire, only 10 days ago. "It has a distinctive character and I was surprised at the quality - I haveo't come across a good English wine be-fore," he said. "It has a pleas-

In the town's Café de la Tour 72-year-old André Bonnen, a veteran of many years' work in



. 14. **2**0.

home with the English wine

the vineyards, was persuaded to part from his early morning

pastis to sample the wine. He paused before commenting: "I like it, and I think it would go well with oysters. 1 didn't know there was any wine

same wine, the reaction was sim-ilarly favourable. "A bit like a the English attempts at

Macon Chardonay," one said. rivalling them.
In fact, whether through Daniel Lamblin, Café de la In fact, whether through politeness, the effects of a civic hangover or the quality have a huge hangover from of the product, it was impos-

By John Dryden

DAILY POEM

A Song for St Cecilia's Day

From harmony, from heavenly harmony
This universal frame began; When Nature underneath a heap Of jarring atoms lay, And could not heave her head, The tuneful voice was heard from high, Arise, ve more than dead. Then cold and hot and moist and dry In order to their stations leap-And Music's power obey. From harmony, from heavenly harmony This universal frame began: From harmony to harmony

Through all the compass of the notes it ran, The diapason closing full in man.

What passion cannot Music raise and quell When Jubal struck the chorded shell, His listening brethren stood around, And, wondering, on their faces fell To worship that celestial sound

Within the hollow of that shell, That spoke so sweetly, and so well.
What passion cannot Music raise and quell?

Stationers' Hall, London EC4, at 7pm.

Less than a god they thought there could not dwell

The feast of St Cecilia, patron saint of music and musicians, falls upon this day. The first musical festival in her honour was held at Evreux in Normandy in 1570. Celebrations in this coun-

Cecilianide International Festival of Music concludes this evening

with a concert by the violinist Kerstin Linder-Dewan at the



A new channel opens: The English proudly present their offering to an inhabitant of Beaujeu

from across the Channel.

Jean-Pierre Meyer, a restaurateur who, together with other lowers of the grape from Lansanne, Switzerland, makes an annual pilgrimage to taste the new Beaujolais, was also full of praise. "I had no idea you had good wines in England and I would stock it in my restaurant. The French tradition of the

wimeur wine from Beaujolais, just north of Lyons, dates back to the last ceotury but took off elsewhere in 1974 when Britons staged their first race to acquire the wine before anyone else.

Over the years the value of the Nouveau has been measured more in its newness than its quality but 2.2 million bottles will still be imported to the United Kingdom this year.

Derek McMillen, co-owner of Lamberhurst Vineyard in Kent whose 1995 Bacchus-Seyval table wine was also well received in Beaojen, believes the Bean-jolais product is "over-hyped" and says the French can be arrogant about their claims to produce the best wines. Before shipping out his own version with the EatSoup expedition he accurately predicted: "I think they will be pleasantly surprised at bow good it is."

489,000 bottles - the vast majority of white wine - this year, has already established a small but growing export market to the Continent. Even in supermarkets in Calais the wine is selling well, "mostly to the French", he says.

The editor of EatSoup, David Lancaster, who organised the three car "Reverse Beaujolais Nouveau" trip to France on the traditional third Thursday in November to extol the virtues of the English wine, said it had the potential to be popular anywhere. "When you discover the proper drinking classes over here they welcome it with

And although the people of Beaujeu, still clearing up the empty bottles and casks of from England."

Wheo 12 workmen sat down in the cafe and were served the wine early yesterday, have great faith in the superiority of their product, they were un-

Tour's owner, said: "We all last night. But even with a sible to find anyone who had hangover we still know a good a bad word for the wines wine when we taste it."

French have a nose for the real thing

A dozen or so people were hud-dled outside the Labour Ministry soon after midday vesterday, poring over a street map and newspaper to consider where they should lunch to sample this year's Beaujolais

The cognoscenti, however, had no need to consult either a map or a newspaper. The small neighbourhood bistros with special Beaujolais memus pinned up invariably only that morning - were already full, and the enthusiasts had stayed up notil midnight on Wednesday to see the barrels rolled out and the first bottles uncorked.

The third Thursday in November, the day the year's first Beaujolais is released for sale. has lost some of its early marketing sheen and settled into be-

ing a regular French feast-day - one among many, but still an unimpeachable excuse for a

convivial get-together.

More was riding on the 55 million bottles of Beaujolais Nouveau released this year, half of which go for export, than France's wine-snobs - yes, they have them too - cared to admit.

Last year's Beaujolais Nou-veau sales were the first to feel the effects of the boycott called in many countries to protest against France's resumption of ouclear testing. Sales of Beaujolais Nouveau, it is now admitted, fell by 17 per ceot and set the trend for what was to be a very poor year for French wine

exports generally.

Beaujolais was also deemed to have a quality problem. But some French wine writers are oow describing the 1996 Beauiolais as the best for several

BT cut 20% off national evening calls.

Photographs: Tom Pilston



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try were not formalised until 1683, when they took the form of a church service followed by musical entertainment. Pope, Congreve, Dryden and Purcell wrote odes in her name which were set to music. Benjamin Britten revived the practice when he made a setting of Auden's Hymn to St Cecilia. The St

SP NINIMUM CHARGE PER CALL. DIRECT DIALLED CALLS ONLY. EXCLUDES BY PUBLIC PRYPHONES AND BY CHARGECARD CALLS AND CALLS TO MODILES. FRIENDS & FAMILY NOT AVAILABLE WITH THE LIGHT USER SCHEME. DISCOUNTS START FROM CUSTOMER'S NEXT AVAILABLE BILL PREMIERLINE SUBSCRIPTION IS 26 PER QUARTER.

Christian Wolman

The total failure of the London Tube system on Wednesday night, the second such collapse this year, was an unlucky technical failure rather than a result of under-investment. London Regional Transport managers said yesterday.

But the incident was immediately pounced upon by passenger groups and transport campaigners as an example of the poor state of London's underground railway system.

The problem was traced to the 91-year-old Lots Road power station in Fulham, which provides nearly all the electricity for the system of 11 lines and 48 stations. An estimated 20,000 people were trapped for up to two hours after the failure of a control valve on one of the main gas boilers at the power station.

London Transport said that eventually all the trapped trains were brought to stations where people were able to get off onto

This is the third major electrical failure in the past three years. In April a power cut, which officials then called the "worst ever", hit the Underground, causing chaos for East-

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er tourists and sports fans after ers and passenger groups. a fire in a cable near Earls Court

And on 23 November 1993. the Central Line stopped running and it took a week to find the fault which was traced to a cable in the roof of Lots Road. While London Transport says that these immediate problems are not related to the years of under-investment, which are

tected by government commit-

ments, the £400m given to

London Transport last year is set

to be drastically reduced, de-

the one on Wednesday night. It also suggested that one station, Ladbroke Grove, was in danger of collapsing on its own foundations, and that falling masonry could hit passengers.

Capital, the pro-public transport group, said that part of the

problem is low morale at the Lots Road power station. The plant is likely to be closed down Going underground: LRT says after the supply of power to the Tube jam was 'unlucky' London Underground is privatised. Four consortia are comapparent to all the 2.7million peting to supply electricity to the system in a 30-year contract daily users of the system, it is very concerned that its spendbeing offered under the Goving plans will be an easy target ernment's Private Finance Iniin next week's Budget. tiative. The contract will involve With road-building already being cut, and the subsidies paid the operation, maintenance, financing and renewal of the to private rail companies pro-Tube's high-voltage power

supply.

London Transport said that it expected to be able to award the contract to the winning consortia next spring.

Cliffhanger as council plans to tear down house - and charge for the trouble



Sinking feeling: David Earle examines the crumbling ledge on which his £250,00 farm is perched. He believes that East Riding council, which will knock the building down next week, is partly responsible for the erosion which has damaged it

Photograph: Peter Byrne/Guzelian

Demolition bill sends couple over the edge waves are stained murky brown into a former school-house

lan Burrell

#6 MONTHS

Sue Earle and her uncle David, have spent this week clearing the furniture from their clifftop

Within a month, the land on which it stands will have toppled into the North Sea but East Riding council has promised them it will not let it happen.

Before the house goes over he cliff, a team of council workers will move in next week. They will then smash the house down themselves and send the Earles a bill for £3,500. It is an ignominy for the

couple who hlame the local authority for causing the cliff erosion which has destroyed their £250,000 farm. When Mr Earle, who is 65,

moved in 39 years ago, soil ero-sion was minimal and the North Sea was 150 yards away, its green-blue waters lapping onto sandy shore. Now the sea comes within

five feet of the farmhouse. The

by clay and are tearing the cliffs down at the rate of more than 60 feet a year.

In the spring, the Earles will take the council to a land tribunal, suing them for compensation for loss of their home. The Earles claim that the ero-

sion of the cliffs was trans-

formed by a decision to set up a sea defence wall to protect the village of Mappleton, a mile down the east Yorkshire coast. The effect, according to the Earles, was to stop the drift of

sand to the cliffs beneath their home, leaving the clay exposed to the ravages of the sea. A plucking shed has already disappeared over the 60ft cliff.

along with a straw harn, a garage and a tool shed.

Sue, 43, who has lived with her uncle for eight years, said: The council will not let us protect ourselves and yet they

won't give us any protection. It has been heart-breaking." The Earles wish to move

which is on the farm, but a mile inland. The building is doubleglazed and decorated hut the council has told the couple they cannot stay there because it does not comply with building regulations.

Meanwhile, the Earles are liv-

ing in a caravan. Next week, three of their neighbours, whose homes are also being knocked down are taking the council to court to recover the costs of demolition.

East Riding council defends its action on the grounds that it is acting in the interests of safety and that the 1984 Building Act allows it to recover its

Steve Frost, the council's principal building control officer, said: "You would have a ruinous house sat perched on the cliff which would become an attraction to children and others and it's predominantly their safety we are thinking of by removing the danger.

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Seeds of community partnership with business leaders are sown, but the biggest player stays away

High hopes for a community downed by Canary Wharf

Garlands were bung on the executives of some of the country's higgest development compa-nies on Wednesday night as the ordinary people of East London tried to strike a new contract with the "power players" in their midst

Stephen Jordan, managing director of London Continental Railways, looked slightly awkward with bright tinsel and a large coloured heart over his suit. But for the 1,200 people from diverse communides packing York Hall, Bethnal Green, the, gesture was highly symbolic. In the Indian sub-continent.

garlands are given as a mark of respect to honoured guests. From the stage, Mr Jordan and executives from other companies transforming east London committed themselves to respect and to work with their poorer neighbours.

Rich and poor, congrega-tions from a melting pot of faiths, and tenants' groups had come together for the launch of The East London Communities Organisation (TELCO) - the hope through civic power in

Cardinal Basil Hume, head of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales, emphasised the need to act together.
"We live at a time of social fragmentation and division, where more and more people live alone, family stability is threat-

'People need to feel they are not asking for charity'

cure." Covering the boroughs of Tower Hamlets, Hackney, Newham and Waltham Forest, Telco is deliberately based on the most stable groups within in the area - churches and tenant groups. Anglicans and Catholics and the free churches were side-by-side in York Hall with delegations from mosques, saffron-turbaned Sikh, Hindus and

evangelical atmosphere, the 33 founding groups pledged commitment to Telco and promised to "pay their dues". Subscriptions, which help fund two organisers, range from £200 for small tenant groups to £1,800 for large congregations.

The dues are hefty for a poor area, but financial independence is a tenet of citizen ower. "East London is heavi-'welfarised', but people need to feel they are not asking for charity when trying to build a re-lationship with the power players," one organiser said.

As a first step, the executives were asked to commit themselves to recruitment policies favouring the boroughs. In general terms, they did. LCR, builders of the £3bn Channel Tunnel rail link, is developing a 300-acre site in the middle of Stratford for a station. There were garlands too for the Spitalfields Development Group, huilding offices, shops and homes, and the Health Management Group, responsible for the new London Hospital. The notable absentee was Ca-

blocks the company is devel-oping in Doeklands will eventually provide 55,000 jobs. Under a condition laid down in the more socially conscious 1970s, some 2,000 posts must be held from people from the bor-

oughs. There is even a penalty of £7,000 for each missing local employee. But after a meeting on Monday between six Telco representatives and Gerald Rothmann, managing operator of Canary Wharf, the com-

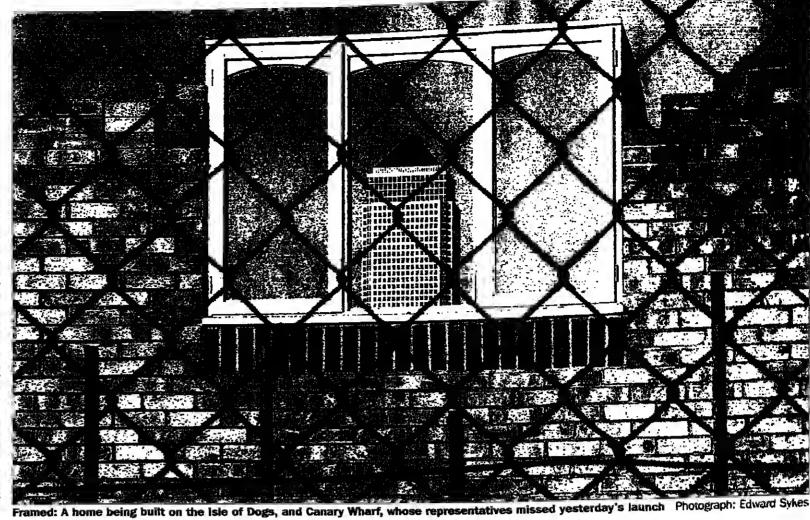
pany decided to send no one. A message of "goodwill" was read out, but the significance of the on 1 October, believe the ablaunch was that commitments were made in person. A spokesman for Canary Wharf said nobody was able to attend

leaders, who sent an invitation

sence was deliberate. Father John Armitage, of St Margaret's, Canning Town, said

at such short notice. But Teleo was not present. "Part of the process is for people in power to meet and be seen by ordinary people like ourselves." A garland was hong on the

chair Mr Rothmann could have



Judge rules sex-change man has no marital

Patricia Wynn Davies

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Tet

A transsexual who had sex using an artificial penis during his 17year marriage to an heiress has no right to a share of the marital wealth, the Court of Appeal ruled vesterday in a bizarre legal drama that will now move on to the European Court of Human Rights.

The man, who had been born a girl but began using a male name at 14, had appealed against a High Court ruling in January that he should be debarred, on grounds of "public policy" from claiming maintenance, a share of the £400,000 matrimonial home or a lump sum after the marriage was declared a nullity in December

To widespread surprise, Mr Justice Hollis had declared in the earlier hearing that the wife never knew her husband's true gender until a copy of his hirth certificate was produced in May 1994. The judge ruled he had enmmitted perjury when he married her, and that any claim he might have should be limited to that of an unmarried co-habitee. The wife told the court

'The civil rights of transsexuals have still got to be recognised at law'

he used to come out of the shower backwards.

Neither of the former partners can be identified because of a court order protecting two children of the marriage who were born after the woman, now 39, underwent artificial insemination with a donor's sperm. She told the hospital her husband had had a vasectomy.

In vesterday's Court of Appeal judgment. Lord Justice Ward said: "Many - and I am one of them – will find it quite astonishing that there was no single occasion in 17 years of life together when her eyes did not see, or her hands or her body feel, or her senses tell her that she was living with a man who had the genital formation of a woman. a man who did not simply have a small or deformed penis, but

But that did not alter the fact

ciety family, into marrying him. Justice Ward said the claim should be ruled out on the grounds of public policy. But while the other two judges, Lord Justice Neill and Lord Justice Potter, took a less restrictive attitude by deciding the case under the discretion given by matrimonial law, they both ruled against the transsexual.Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was refused.

The man, now 50, from a modest north of England back-ground, was barred from contact with the two children last year because of the acrimony and hostility between the couple. He said yesterday: "I believe I am entitled to a settlement and am not prepared to let it rest."
For a UK marriage to be le-

gal it must be between a man and woman - their sexes tallying with their birth certificates. Transsexuals have so far failed to se-cure the right to have their hirth certificates changed to reflect

The husband's solicitor, Madeleine Rees, said: "The civil rights of transsexuals have still got to be recognised at law. We'll seek leave to go to the Lords and if they refuse we will go straight to Strasbourg."
In one of the saddest cases of

its kind, the man began wearing the artificial penis, made nut of plaster of paris, from his late teens. After suffering severe depression he underwent a double mastectomy in December 1973 but the operation was so un-pleasant that he never underwent phalloplasty - construction of a penis, a decision he was to regret. His body was scarred from the removal of his hreasts, he retained the large nipples of a woman and the genitals of a woman. At 30 he moved south and met his future wife, a 19year-old theology student, at the pub where they both worked. The court found that she had no sexual experience before the couple began an intimate rela-

tionship using the false penis. In a bid to overturn Mr Justice Hollis's ruling that the wife had "thought that the defendant cither had a very small penis or that it was deformed in some way ," the man described a row after the marriage began to hreak down in 1994, telling the court that he undid his trousers and exposed his artificial penis, asking whether that was not good

replied: "it's not real." In the first year of the marriage, he said, the wife had But that did not alter the fact that the man had deceived the and discovered his vagina but he woman, heiress of a wealthy so- had refused to discuss it.

enough for her, to which she had



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'Missing' Rwandan refugees fall prey to whim of big-power rivalry

Realpolitik, not racism, is at root of row over military intervention, writes John Lichfield

THE MANY

The fate, condition – even the existence – of up to 700,000 "missing" Rwandan refugees has become a political football on three continents.

A proposed international force for central Africa, agreed in principle last week, has be-come mired in disagreements and suspicion on the scope and purposes of the mission. Officers from 20 nations meet in Stuttgart today in "review mil-itary options". The meeting has twice been delayed; no decisions are expected. Despite the pleas nf aid agencies, it remains unclear, seven days on, how large a force can be assembled and when, if ever, it will be sent, The voluntary, hnmeward flood of 500,000 Rwandan

refugees in the past five days has thrown planning of the mission into confusion. The main purpose of intervention was in es-cort aid to the refugees, who fled the 1994 Rwandan civil war, and encourage them to go bome. Most of the remaining facts how many Rwandan refugees are in Zaire? where are they? bow hungry are they? who, if anybody, is controlling them? are disputed or unknown. The US, Britain and a num-



Yesterday Emma Bonino, the European Union's human-

itarian aid commissioner, in

effect accused the world com-

munity of racist indifference in

the refugees' plight. "How many lives have to be in danger

... to justify a deployment of troops?" she said in a speech in

the European Parliament. "Is it

the colour of their skin which

ber of Africa countries are increasingly doubtful about military intervention, suspecting that, as the refugee crisis ebbs, the farce may be drawn into a struggle for control of Zaire. Washington and London say they will not commit forces until the situation is clearer. The US is unlikely to send combat

troops in any circumstances. France, Belgium and Spain, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and all humanitarian to be in two minds.

A FREE TWO NIGHT BREAK FOR TWO

agencies on the ground say military action is still needed to find and protect 700,000 "missing" Rwandans. The return of thousands of Hutu refugees from camps around Goma should not blind the world to the possible plight of thousands of others caught up in the Zairean civil war. Rwanda insists the missing Hutus are a myth. Canada, which agreed to lead the intervention force, appears

makes the difference?" Cynicism about Western arnuments and motives is understandable but the core issue is not racism but realpolitik. The US, Britain and South Africa fear intervention which might have repercussions throughout central Africa. Although the force's mandate would be limited to helping refugees, they suspect French pressure for its deployment is not driven purely by humanitarian concern. The presence of forces of this

kind has a habit of freezing local conflicts. In this case, it might check the Zairean rebels who have defeated the Zairean army and remnants of the genocidal former Rwandan government army, which ruled the Hutu refugee camps. The rebels have been presented as separatists but they say their aim is to rid Zaire of the regime of President Mobutu Sese Seko. France is suspected of wishing to prop up

Satellites pinpoint the missing thousands Geneva (agencies) - The UGANDA UNHCR said it had found the 700,000 missing Rwandan Hutu refugees in eastern Zaire, using Western satellite and aerial pictures. The largest group, of 250,000 people, was RWANDA cated 45 miles from Bukavu. Meanwhile, refugees said Zairean rebels were detaining ynung men as Rwandans RURUNDI emerged from the hills above Gnma. They also reported fighting between the rebels and Rwandan Hutu militiamen driven out of the huge Mu-

his regime by introducing a new, international, military element. US officials say they have no particular interest in seeing the rebels succeed; they just do not want to get involved.

gunga refugee camp by the

rebels last week.

However, France, in its turn, is suspicious of the close relationship between the US and the Rwandan government, dominated by English-speaking, long-exiled Thisi forces which woo the 1994 civil war (who have no love of France, a supporter of the previous, Hutu, regime). Paris has no particular faith in the corrupt Mr

TANZANIA Mubutu but fears its influence

over francophone Africa may be further diminished if Zaire - ur large parts of it - fall to forces allied to a Rwandan government distrustful of France.

In coded language, each side accuses the other of ignoring, or overplaying, the humanitarian crisis for its own wider political ends. The aid agencies say geo-politics means little to the thousands - 400,000? 500,000? 700,000? - of Hutu refugees trapped around Bukavu or wandering in the vast Zairean forests to the west.

Judge orders civil trial for ex-SS officer

A military judge ordered the release from house arrest of a former SS major suspected of involvement in Italy's worst Second World War atrocity and ruled that his case should instead be considered by the civil judiciary.

The ruling on Karl Hass, 84, after a closed-door committal hearing could create a legal nightmare. ex-captain Erich Priebke, is in preventive detention pending a re-trial by a military court for the same atrocity. Reuters - Rome

Jet explodes over Alos

An unidentified plane exploded while flying over the Alps early yesterday, and authorities launched a earch for the wreckage. French media reported. Residents heard the blast and saw the burning aircraft in the sky between the cities

of Annecy and Thones. Traffic controllers in the region said they had no warning of the blast or any distress call from the plane. the radio said. About 80 police, fire-fighters and rescuers were mubilized, and a helicopter was to fly over the area in search for the wreckage, the radio said. AP - Paris

Briton escapes

A Cambodian military official said a British mineclearance expert. Christopher Howes, believed to have been kidnapped by the Khmer Rouge in late March. had escaped. "He escaped, I don't

know when," said Major General Tom Sambol. He added that the Armed Forces Deputy Chief of Staff, Lieutenant-General Nhiek Bun Chhay, had gone to northern Cambodia to bring Mr Howes to Phnom Penh. Reuters - Promh Pent

EU to extend Nigerian sanctions

The European Union has agreed in extend for agother six months its sanctions against Nigeria, imposed as a reaction to human rights abuse in the west African country. EU diplomats said the decision would be taken without discussion by EU foreign ministers when they meet in Brussels on Monday. Reuter - Brussels

Romania faces corruption

Romanian Prime Ministerdesignate. Victor Ciorbea has pledged to uproot what he says is endemic post-Communist government corruption. Mr Ciorbea, endorsed for his new job within days of reformist Emil Constantinescu's presidential election victory over lan lliescu, said his government would seek Western approval for tough reforms. It would also press ahead to join Nato and the EU. Reuters - Bucharest

Fire damages **Parliament**

Fire broke out in the Czech Parliament in central Prague early yesterday, injuring several firemen. The fire hrigade said a number of rooms in the baroque huilding had been damaged in a newly reconstructed part of the huilding, but the blaze had been extinguished. The Parliament was not in session. Reuters - Prague

Hong Kong building fears

Fire regulations and the safety of older buildings were in question in Hong Kong yesierday after a blaze tore through an office and residential block, leaving at least 39 people dead. The fire, thought to have been sparked by an electrical fault in a lift, quickly engulfed the bottom four floors of the 16storey Garley Building. Reuters - Hong Kong

Lorry drivers paralyse France

Mary Dejevsky Paris

France was facing gridlock and imminent fuel shortages yesterday as the country's lorry drivers tightened their stranglehold on road transport. Major conurbations, including Marseilles, Rennes and Bordeaux were effectively blockaded, and access to key motorways and trunkroutes was barred.

An estimated 10,000 lorries. about 700 of them British-registered, were caught up in the general paralysis, as the lorrydrivers' action entered its fourth day. Car workers at Peugeot and Renault plants were laid off because supplies of components were delayed. Bordeaux was said to be within three days of running out of fuel.

Drivers bave targeted ports and cities with big fuel depots, oil refineries and trans-shipment stations. As well as using their Intries to form harricades, they are mounting "snail" convoys driving their vehicles severa abreast at slow speeds to frustrate the traffic behind.

The protesturs - all haula company employees, not the self-employed drivers who have formed the backbone of past protests - are demanding shorter working hours, retirement at 55 on full pension, and lower tax on diesel fuel. The main point of their protest, however, is a "contract" they signed with employers two years ago which, they say, has been implemented by fewer than one in three.

The contract was supposed to reduce their hours to a maximum of 240 hours a mouth initially, and to a maximum of 230 hours a month within two years. The second anniversary of the contract falls on Sunday, and it is due for renewal.

However, behind the protest lies a deeper fear. The contract replaced a national agreement underwritten by the govern-ment and represented a first stage in liberalising the French road haulage market. With that market due to be freed completely in 1998, the drivers fear Europe-wide competition could reduce their pay or put them nut

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Oprah's recommended reading becomes the talk of all America

Rupert Cornwell on the Queen of Chat who has given literature a lift

In the annals of the dissemination of human culture, it may not quite rival the discovery of papyrus, the invention of offset printing, or the lannch of the Internet. But Oprah Winfrey, queen of television talk shows, has launched a book club, and the US publishing industry has never seen anything like it. America's obsession with celebrity always

amazes, but rarely as much as now. This is not, to put it mildly, a nation of voracious readers - or at least it wasn't until Ms Winfrey announced in September that, once a month, her regular weekday afternoon show would contain a half hour 'Book Club' segment "to get America reading again", complete with featured author. For Oprah-followers, it was as good as the Eleventh Commandment.

Now appearances by authors on chat shows are a routine - indeed essential - part of a book's promotion, and not only in the US. The current super-specimen bere is Sarah Ferguson, dubbed by one American Sarah Ferguson, dubbed by one American newspaper the "Duchess of Pork", who in recent days has appeared on Oprah, Larry King and seemingly every other show from Boston to Honolulu, to push her autobiography My Story. If a writer can get on Oprah, said one publishing company even before the advent of the Book Club, "you don't need

For pure publishing pork, though, nothing matches the featured selection on Oprah's Book Club. The first choice was a decently written but largely unremarkable novel about a kidnapped child, *The Deep End of the Ocean*, by the debutante author Jacqueline Mitchard. The publishers initially planned a print run of 100,000.

Then came 18 October and benediction by Oprah. Since then the print run bas been raised to 800,000 and The Deep End stands today on top of the New York Times bestseller list, baving vaulted over such superstars as Tom Clancy, Stephen King, John Le Carre and Dick Francis. And to prove it was no fluke, Oprah has done it again with ber second selection, Song of Solomon by Toni

Song of Solomon, as students of modern American writing will know, is anything but lowbrow supermarket pulp. It is an exquis-



Sales pitch: Toni Morrison's Song of Solomon, published in 1977, was featured on Oprah Winfrey's Book Club spot, Sales have since gone through the roof

ite, mystical tale of a black man's discovery of his African-American roots. Largely on the strength of it, Ms Murrison three years ago won the Nobel prize fur literature. The book was first published in 1977, and before this month some 400,000 hardback and paperback cupies had been

That all changed with the Book Club endorsement of "the greatest living American author, male or female, black or white," as Oprah told ber 9 million regular viewers. Forewarned, the paperback publisher rushed out another 580,000 copies and Knopf, which has the bardback rights, printed 40,000. In other words, the trade reckons to sell half as many books again in a couple of months as in nearly 20 years thanks to the puffing power of a mega-

The Book Club format is a small masterpiece of celebrity journalism: a potted bi-ography of the subject, followed by filmed excerpts of a candle-lit dinner at Oprah's apartment with the author and four selected viewers as guests, rounded off by an on- ber debts.

set interview. She does not play the artsy critset interview. She does not play the artsy critic, but the gushing advocate of reading for reading's sake. So has Oprah found the magic formula to transform a nation of couch potatoes into a mighty army of bookworms? Perhaps, although proof conclusive will not come until a Winfrey-blessed Oresteian Trilogy by Aeschylus — around for 2,500 permet. years - surges to No I on the Times list. What she has already demonstrated bow-ever, for the umpteenth time, is the colossal power of celebrity TV in a land where talk-show prattlers are more famous than the Presidents they interview.

In the meantime, the book world trembles in anticipation at the third monthly selection, to be shown in early January. It is The Book of Ruth by Jane Hamilton, a prizewinning 1988 novel that bas sold 8,000 in hardback. Now the bardback publishers are rushing out 50,000 copies, and the paperback publishers half a mil-

If the good Duchess could get on the Book Club, she might even be able to pay



Baby death teenager gives up to FBI

David Usborne

New York - An eighteen-vearold man accused of helping his girlfriend to kill ber newborn child turned himself into the FBI in Wilmington, Delaware. yesterday amid a scrum of journalists and jostling onlookers, some of them screaming "baby

killer".
After 48 hours on the run. Brian Peterson, arrived at the FBI offices with his mother and father. He was expected to plead nut guilty to a charge of first-degree murder.

Both Mr Peterson, and his girlfriend, Amy Grossberg, who is being held in custody, could face the death penalty if con-

The case of the young pair. who were high school sweet-bearts in a wealthy New Jersey suburb, has drawn widespread public interest, partly because the two accused come from backgrounds not normally associated with death penalty

It has also triggered renewed debate about capital punishment in America, with many speaking up for two people, who, although they are legally uld enough to be treated as adults under the law, are accused of a crime that was quite likely to have been committed in circumstances of intense confusion and distress

The family lawyer, Joseph Hurley, conceded that his parents had been considering smuggling their son nut of the country in order to avoid placing him at the risk of execution.

Mr Hurley, first tried to talk them nut of that course of action: the mother apparently responded that that way, "at least be has a life".

According to the police, Mr Peterson drove during the night of 12 November to Ms Grossberg's dormitory room at the University of Delaware, in Newark, and took her to a nearby motel.

Once they were in their room, the prosecution allege that Ms Grossberg gave birth to the baby - a boy - which the pair then killed and put in a rub-bish bag. This was then put in a tip behind the motel. A post-mortem revealed that

the baby had suffered severe wounds to his skull, leading investigators to believe that his head had been crushed by the

It appeared that Miss Grossberg had concealed her preg nancy from both her friends and family until the very end, presumably out of fear of revealing it to her parents. DNA tests are planued to establish whether Mr Peterson was the child's father.

Apartheid's former strongman lambasts S African witchhunt against Afrikaners

Cape lown (Keuter) - 1 ne lormer South African president P.W. Botha declared yesterday that he would never apologise for apartheld, and denounced what be called an assault on the Afrikaner by the country's new black rulers.

"I am not guilty of any deed for which I should apologise or ask for amnesty. I therefore have no intention of doing

Mr Botha, aged 80, one of the last two surviving white apartheid presidents, made his remarks in a written statewith Archbishop Desmond Tutu

at a secret location, ino were allowed to witness the en-

Tutu beads a Truth and Reconciliating Commission, intended to heal the wounds of apartheid, which has beard from police officers that Botha almost certainly knew about the torture and murder of black

Mr Botha, who became prime minister in 1978 and president in 1984, said: "I am deeply concerned about the fierce and unforgiving assault which is being launched against the Afrikaner and his language at all levels of society." He bad

"blatant murder". But "there might have been instances during the conflict of the past where individuals have exceeded the limits of their

authority. "I cannot be expected to take responsibility for the actions of any such individuals." He said reconciliation be-

tween former enemics could be achieved only by "closing the book on the past and focusing on the challenges of the future in unity.

"In many circles the Afrikaner is being isolated to be pun-ished for all the unfavourable

Africa ... Concern exists that your commission is being abused in this campaign of re-venge against the Afrikaner."

He said British colonialists and not Afrikaners had introduced race discrimination into South Africa. "The Afrikaner was a victim of (British) colo-nial greed ... The recent conflicts in which we were involved were primarily against Soviet impe-

rialism and colonialism." He asserted it was he who had begun the process of reform which led to Nelson Mandela being released from a life prison sentence in February 1990. He

removing some racist legislation. "As bead of the government

of the day - a legally effected

government which was internationally recognised - I accept full political responsibility for the policies which were followed," Mr Botha said. But be added that be and his former cabinet could not be expected to react to every allega-

tion that came up during truth commission bearings.
"Your commission should provide me and the ex-ministers with a document comprebensively detailing all those as-pects on which it requires

block in Johannesburg housing anti-apartheid activists was wrong. "These allegations are based on untested, unconfirmed and unsubstantiated hearsay."

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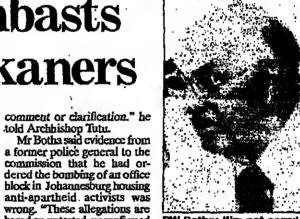
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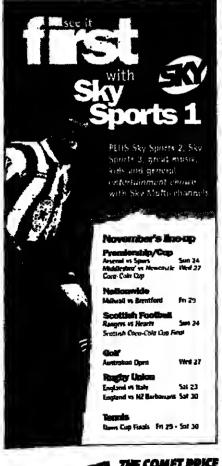
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Sex case lager minister's fate hangs The first at the first place of in balance

Sarah Helm Brussels

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The fate of Elio Di Rupo, the Belgian deputy prime minister, hung in the balance yesterday as inquiries intensified into claims that he had sex with under-age teenage boys. Late on Wednesday, a par-

liamentary commission deferred a decision on whether to ift Mr Di Rupo's immunity rom prosecution and send him or trial. The commission ruled hat evidence presented so far as contradictory, and a final ecision would not be made for further two weeks.

The delay was widely seen ysterday as an attempt by the



centri-left government to defuse the controversy and ward off a threat to the coalition, which mild collapse if Mr Di Rupo were forced to resign. . However, as more unsub-

stantiated, lurid details of the allegations spilled into the press vesterday, an already angry and volatile Belgian public demanded swift answers.

Gay groups, meanwhile, step-ped up their warnings against a witchunt, which could bring a moral backlash against homosexuals. Leaders of Belgium's gay community called on the press and politicians to recall

that no corroborated evidence of illegal sex has yet been pre-sented against Mr Di Rupo, who has denied all allegations. It re-mains unclear whether the teenager who has accused Mr Di Rupo was under 16, the age of consent of homosexual sex in Belgium. Gay groups insisted a clear line should be drawn between this case, and the paedophile murder of young girls, revealed in August, which led to the arrest of Marc Dutroux.

Mr Di Rupo, minister for communications and Jean Pierre Grafe, a regional gov-ernment minister, both openly bomosexual, have been named in statements made to the police by a young male prostitute, known as Oliver T. The statements, which were

before the parliamentary commission on Wednesday, were made during the intensified inquiries into paedophile rings aunched since the Dutroux affair. The teenager alleges that Mr Di Rupo had sex with him in public toilets, in a dis-cothèque and at his home. He also describes sexual encounters with Mr de Grafe, including pornographic photography ses-sions at Mr de Grafe's apartment in Liège. Members of the parliamen-

tary commission pointed out vesterday that the evidence contained numerous inconsistencies, particularly concerning the accuser's age at the time. Furthermore, the accuser's motives remain in doubt, with some members of the Francophone community accusing Flemish elements of seeking to smear the Francophone socialist party, which is embroiled in

a high level corruption scandal. Whatever the final ruling of the commission of inquiry, Mr Di Rupo, a hitherto popular figure, is highly unlikely to survive in Belgian politics in the climate of distrust and recrimination.

Israeli guard faces up to reality in video beating case



Jerusalem (AP) - Tsahi Smayah, an Israeli border guard captured on video tape kicking and beating Palestinian detainees, seen outside the city's magistrates' court with his head in his hands ucat to his lawyer, while his father, seen on the left, tries to console filmed the two guards in a north

him. Smayah, together with another bor-der guard David Ben Abu faces charges nf aggravated assault and abuse of power. Both men wept in court yesterday, surrounded by their families. An amateur Palestinian cameraman

Jerusalem suburb, kicking the Palestinians in the head and body, forcing them to do press-ups and hitting them in the face in October. The footage was broadcast on Monday on Israel Televi-

The two accused were ordered to be

held for three days, after which time they Their phone lines will be disconnected to prevent them from speaking to each other or anyone else invoked in the case.

will be released under house arrest. Israeli court spokesman Moshe Gorali

Kohl and Juppé act to steady the franc

Tony Barber Europe Editor

Germany and France sought to calm nerves over the planned European single currency yesterday by insisting that the pre-sent mark-frame exchange rate

does not need to be changed. The statement, from German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and France's Prime Minister, Alain Juppe, was designed to quell speculation that the frame might he devalued before the scheduted launch of the euro in January 1999

Fresh tensions over monetary union had broken out on Wednesday when Valery Giscard d'Estaine, a former French president, proposed a sharp devaluation of the trane ahead of monetary union. Heightening the sense of drama, Italy's Prime Minister, Romano Pro-di, said he would resign if his country failed to qualify.

Their comments demonstrated that for all 15 European Union member-states, the stakes of monetary union are growing larger the closer the EU moves to the moment of truth in January 1999.

In practice, the crunch year for most EU governments may be less than six weeks away, for it is partly on the basis of their economic performance in 1997 that countries will be judged to have met - or missed - the Maastricht conditions for participating in manetary union

from the start.
Though Mr Giscard d'Estaing is not in the French government, his devaluation proposal reflected the views of number of French politicians. In Germany, however, there is likely to be little welcome for any move leading to a stronger mark and greater strains on German competitiveness.

Mr Prodi's offer to resign if Italy fails to be a foundermember of the euro was, in the eyes of many, a sore temptation

of falc. He made the offer only a day after his government was widely criticised for putting forward emergency tax proposals which are supposed to ensure Italian participation in monetary union in 1999, but which may achieve

rotests rock Serbia

Tony Barber Europe Editor

Serbia and Croatia were convulsed yesterday by the largest anti-government protests since the outbreak of the wars in former Yugoslavia in 1991, Serbian opposition leaders brought thousands of demonstrators on to Belgrade's streets for the third day running in protest at the attempts of President Slobodan Milosevic's ruling Socialist Party to annul opposition

victories in local elections.
The Socialists still dominate

Yugosłavia, which unites Serbia and Montenegro, But a coali-tion of opposition parties known as Zajedno ("Together") scored an unprecedented success last Sunday when they defeated the Socialists in municipal elections in Belgrade, the in-dustrial chies of Nis and cragu-jevac, and Novi Sad, tastial of Vojvodina province. The jubilant chairman of the

opposition Democratic Party, Zoran Djindjic, said the results would "ring around the palities where the opposition world" and prove to Serbia's had been victorious. Demonssults would "ring around the friends that the country ruled by the federal parliament of rump. Mr Milosevic since 1987 was

rea". Another opposition lead-er, Vojislav Kostunica, declared: "The outcome of the local elections represents a first important step in the direction of the establishment of a democratic order in Serbia."

The anti-government protests broke out after Socialistcontrolled electoral commissions, citing unspecified voting irregularities, ordered new elections in a majority of municitrations in Belgrade were the largest since March 1991, when

"neither Cuba nor North Ko- Mr Milosevic deployed tanks lence from 30 November by and police units to suppress tens awarding of thousands of protestors In Croatia, ruled since 1990

by President Franjo Tudjman and his right-wing nationalist Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ), the government was denounced at home and in Western capitals for announcing plans to shut down the country's last independent radio station. Thousands of demonstrators massed in central Zagreb on Wednesday night to shout anti-Tudiman slogans and wave banners in support of Radio 101, which the HDZ inlends to si-

quency to a new station. The action also flies in the face of Croatian government promises to the Council of Eu-

rope to protect freedom of

speech and pluralism in the me-dia. It is unclear to what extent Mr Tudjman personally was behind the action against Radio 101. He has been in a Washing-ton hospital for the last week with what the state-controlled Croatian media described as digestion problems". A US official said he understood Mr Tudiman had stomach cancer. | precisely the opposite.



Thomas Cook



Shadow of war hangs over South Korea's border city

Richard Lloyd Parry on the turmoil caused by Pyongyang's lost submarine

Kangnung, South Korea --Kangnung might be Korea's answer to Scarborough - an oldfashioned seaside town perched on the bleak but beautiful north-east coast. Instead of ruined abbeys, the countryside around Kangnung has famous Confucian temples, and instead of moors, the mountains of the Odaesan National Park. The locals live off farming (rice rather than cows) and fishing (squid rather than haddock). The town has one night club, but tourists are mostly nid people, and the Kangnung they value is unglamorous and uneventful

The problem with the Scarborough comparison is that 50 miles murth of Kangnung is a 155-mile barbed wire fence. fortified on both sides by mines, tanks and one million heavily armed troops. Below the line. life passes quietly. Above it, in Stalinist North Korea, there is hunger, political terror and one of the world's least unpre-

dictable dictatorships It is easy to forget Korea is divided, but 43 years after the armistice, the menace of war has not faded, as Kangnung realning a coastal road south of the



A South Korean soldier at the submarine's landing Photograph: Reuter

city made a shocking find: bobbing on the rocks near the shore was a "dolphin-like ship" Closer inspection revealed it in be a submarine. Its crew – 26 North Korean commandos and sailors - had deserted it bours before, and were armed and at large in the countryside.
The submarine's abandon-

ment looked like a cock-up, but caused uproar in South Korea. Armed forces were put nn alert, and President Kim Young Sam denounced the "infiltration" as an act of war. Forty thousand troops, spotter planes cently discovered. In mid-Sep- and helicopter gun ships mounttember, a taxi driver motoring ed a man hunt. Two months later, all but one of the North



won (£110m).

Koreans have been killed or captured. But the incident galvanised hardliners in Seoul and undermined the tentative progress towards peace talks with the North. Nowhere bas its impact been

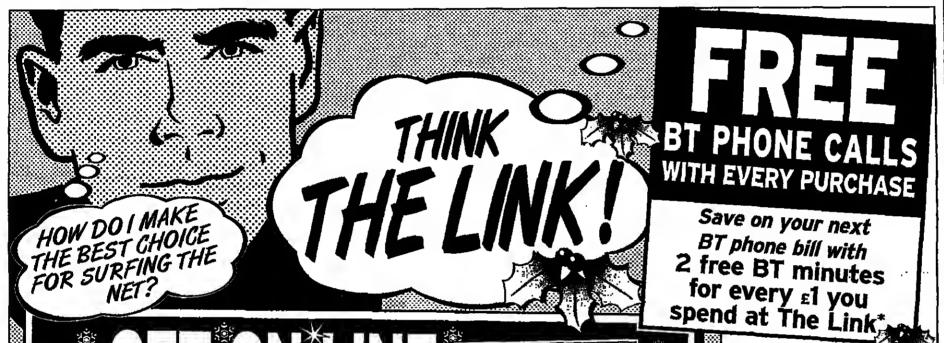
felt harder than in Kangnung. For more than a mnnth, the town was under curfew, from mid-evening to early morning. During the day, traffic entering and leaving the area was stopped and searched, and fishing boats were ordered to stay in harbour. The timing could not have been worse; autumn is the peak tourist period and the season for songyi, a rare moun-

soldier myself, and I stood guard on those beaches," says Bae Sun Chil, proprietor of a billiard hall, which is still suffering from the after-effects of the curfew. "Someone made a mistake, and as a taxpayer I feel betrayed." Seoul appears to acknowledge this criticism. Since the submarine's discovery. the Defence and Foreign Ministers bave lost their jobs. crative product of the area. Beyond the military's short-comings is the question of Ko-When a songvi-picker was shnt

but grumbles do emerge. How

after being mistaken for an in-filtrator, the supply dried up. The submarine fiasco is thought rea's future. Racked by food shortages and flooding, the North is closer to collapse than at any time in its history. There are risks – a suicidal, last-ditch to have cost Kangnung 150 hn To salvage some benefit from the disaster, the town plans to invasion nr some kind of less turn the site of the submarine er military blackmail - but also landing into a "national security opportunities for settling the four-decade-long stand-off. The government of the South seems historic site", with commemorative pagodas, exhibition centres and a scale model of the more interested in confrontavessel, "Passers-by will enjoy the tion than in dialogue. "We need outstanding views, and reflect a comprehensive overall proon the conscientiousness of the gramme," says Mr Bae, "I feel Knrean people, says Chni Song Il nf Kangnung City Hall. more unsafe than ever. It happened once. Why abouldn't it Kangnung locals are stoical,





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Season of mysteries and mellow fruits

William Tell would surely have known how to solve a problem baffling a farmer in the Argau canton of Switzerland.

Scientists from the Swiss Institute of Agricultural Technology are now X-raying the fruits above to try to find out whether they are apples or pears, and have told the farmer not to touch them.

Photograph: AP

Down and in: Life after politics for new **US** cult hero

Rupert Cornwell Washington

He may have been trounced in the Presidential election. But at the crusty old age of 73, Bob Dole is proving there is life af-ter politics: first as a glowingly reviewed performer on the latenight talkshows - and now as the first major party White House candidate to star in a commercial advertisement.

"Not Doing Anything?" asks the caption on the Air France advertisement in the New York Times, Washington Post and other papers yesterday, touting a \$299 (£179) weekend roundtrip to Paris. And who is the figure helow, his arm extended in a beaming "Come Fly With Me"? None other than the erstwhile Republican candidate, whn by his own admission is



storm on late night shows

ter be had lost the New York Governorship that same year. But Mr Dole is carving a special niche, and perhaps achiev ing a place in the national affection that he never achieved in his 35-year Congressional

Within days of his 5 November defeat, Mr Dole was nn the talk shows displaying the throwaway bumour, sometimes slashing, sometimes self-deprecating, that - if be had unveiled it more during the campaign - might have made the nutcome much closer. What about the "300lb Clinton?", be was asked by David Letterman on CBS.

If Bob Dole had unveiled his humour earlier, the US election result might have been different

doing exceedingly little at the

Of course, had things turned out otherwise, Mr Dole might have been savouring a trip to Paris next year aboard Air Force One (running costs some \$50,000 per bour). But Air France it must be. As a tiny line of print makes clear, he is donating his \$3,000 fee to Sarah's Circle, a Washington community centre for the elderly.

Though no US presidential contender has featured in a commercial campaign, dozens of lesser politicos have - among them Dan Quayle, once vice president, who pushed Wavy-Lay potato chips in 1994, and Mario Cuomo, who sung the praises of Doritos corn chips af-

"I never tried to lift him, I tried to beat him," Mr Dole retorted. Yes, he confessed at another point; he was up and ready to go, "but," he added, "there's no place to go." A few days later he was

briefly guest co-host on Satur-day Night Live, mocking bis own habit of referring to himself in the third person.

"This is Bob Dole, and Bob Dole thinks..." And so on, and so on, to gales of laughter. In fact the signs are emerging of a Bob Dole cult, probably shortlived, but emblematic of a country in which media is message; and politics, showbusiness and advertising campaigns guishable entity.

Strategic nuclear warheads 8,625

Total men under arms (Russian figure) 4 million, of which:

Armed forces 1.7m (probably nearer 1.3m) of which: Strategic missile and space troops 149,000:

Army 460,000; Air force (VVS) 145,000; Air defence (PVO); 175,000; Navy (VMF) 190,000.

Interior Ministry (MVD) 232,000: Frontier Forces (PV) 100,000; Forces for Protection of Russian Fed'n (FSB) 20,000; Federal Gov-

ernment Communications and In-

formation Agency (FAPSI) troops 90,000 (?); Ministry for Emergency

Situations troops 90,000 (?); Transport 90,000.

Total accounted for: 1,741,000

Other troops: 2,259,000

Unloved, unpaid and under-fed ... how a failed doctrine wrought havoc with Russia's dead army

Christopher Bellamy reports on soldiers begging in Moscow and officers driving taxis.

enough to attack Russia today, the only way the Russians could respond quickly would be with nuclear missiles. The rest of the Russian armed forces have reached a point of crisis and are on the edge of disintegration. It is a miracle they have not already fallen apart.

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A group of young soldiers, in uniform, approach a car stopped at a set of Moscow traffic lights. They are conscripts, who are not allowed to wear civilian clothes, but they are unarmed and nnthreatening. "Please, sir", one says, leaning over to the window. "Can you spare 1.000 roubles [11p]?" Moscow sprawls, muddy and

cold, a grey ocean punctuated by glittering, hermetically sealed is-lands of Western wealth. Much of the city is controlled by criminal gangs, who sponge off the wealth pouring in from foreign investors and from Russia's own vast natural assets, just like 1920s Chicago, but without pro-

Amid the foreign wealth, a lieutenant-general at the nerve centre of Russian operational planning has not been paid since August, His daughter wants to study medicine but the family cannot afford the fees, so she works in a bank, one of many Western enterprises springing up in Moscow, to try to save the money. But, at the moment, she is subsidising her father.

Last year, a fighter squadron was temporarily deployed to the Russian Far East. The officers had to make their way across Russia's vast land mass, stopping at hotels. Their expenses, and the component of their salary designed to cover food, have still not been paid.

Somehow, they manage. They always did, in an economy more attuned to real goods than to money. "Captain soand-so isn't so badly off," they say. "Do you know, his wife works in the pilots' mess? They

get all the food they need". Fortunately, nobody is likely to attack Russia today, or tomorrow. Just as well, because with the armed forces in their current parlous state, it is difficult to believe Russia could mount a conventional defence. They would have to use the only forces they keep at a "high state of readiness" - their nuclear

We have concentrated on the main priorities" said Colonel Viktor Baranets, press secretary to General Igor Ro-diocov, the Defence Minister. The strategic missile forces

Moscow — If anyone were fool remain in a high state of readiness. So do the space forces."

It is highly unlikely that Col Baranets has been paid lately.

Since August, hardly anyone has, and travel expenses and subsistence allowances have not been paid for a year. General Rodionov has refused to take any pay himself until the arrears have been sorted out.

These are the people to whom the pay system gives priority – the General Staff, the elite "court" division in Moscow. Servicemen in lower priority units have been without pay for much longer. Yet, extraordinarily, some of

them carry on working, although the part-time jobs they do to pay their bills are absorbing more and more of their energies. Many officers drive taxis at night.

Col Baranets and his interpreter, however, were smartly dressed, in newly introduced uniforms. "This is the extent of military reform so far" said the colonel. 'A new uniform, new forms, new rubber stamps". Bot even the new uniforms are in short supply. Many officers only have one uniform shirt, and only wear uniform on special occasions. Even officers' uniform shoes are in short supply.

Most of the military blames the former Defence Minister. General Pavel Grachev, who

Nuclear defence would be the only option if Russia were attacked today

was fired in advance of the presidential election in July for not grasping the need to cut the size of the Russian forces to a man-

force, missile troops and space forces - is 1.7 million, although with desertion and manpower shortfalls, the true figure is probably nearer 1.3 million. The aim is to reduce by

200,000 in the next two years, said Col Baranets. "In the longer term, [to reduce] to a miltion - maybe even 500,000.

There is agreement that the armed forces are too big, but," he smiled, "the country is big also." It is understood that General Rodionov and his advisers believe that the sheer size



of Russia rules out armed forces of less than a million.

But these form less than half of the 4 million men Russia still has under arms - an astound-ing number for a country in such difficulties. There are also soldiers in the Interior Ministry, the FSB (the former KGB), and the Border Guards, plus troops who guard communications facilities, railways, and those who belong to the Ministry for Emergency Situations, The Russians are working on

unifying the state defence struc-ture. They like the idea of a Toint Chiefs of Staff" set-up, like that in Britain or America. Chechnya, where army and interior ministry units shot at one another, has made a deep impression.

The overwhelming impres-

sion is that Russia has not grappled with the problem from the top down. Traditionally, the structure and even the equip-ment of the armed forces has been driven by a vision of the character of future war, and the kind of forces needed to fight it. This vision they called "milageable level it. This vision may ageable level it. This vision may find the itary doctrine. In the late Imperial forces – army, navy, air erial and Soviet eras, it was geared to the possibility of the next World War - One, Two or Three. The Russians were totally unprepared for an internal

war against their own people. The problem was that, hav-ing centred on "doctrine", the whole system is paralysed until such a doctrine can be produced. In the interim, there is a consummate irony. The disintegration of the Russian military could present more of a threat to the West than its forces ever did in their most developed, Cold-War, form.

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SPECIAL

... recipes from

Lord Wyatt (right) has been described as one of the most influential behind-the-scenes figures of our age. Is he? Or is he merely good at parties?

Plus: Dennis Lim on the media rehabilitation of Courtney Love, the woman Americans love to hate; and Blake Morrison, Helen Fielding, Peter York

and in real life

Girl Power: liberation or hype? Plus, the perm is dead, long live the perm; the Trainspotting effect - why the eyes of world are on Edinburgh; Nicholas Barber spends the night with Tricky

Lord Bancroft

Ian Bancroft cared passionately about the integrity and public standing of the British civil service, of which he was head for a truncated period, between 1978 and 1981. Bancroft and Margaret Thatcher were chalk and cheese. He went to the stake on the principle of the duty of civil servants to give inpalatable advice to ministers.

In almost the first breath of his maiden speech to the House of Lords on 26 May 1982, he made this barb:

It is a great privilege to follow the to-mer Lord Chancellor; and although flattery never does anyone any good t do not intend to flatter anyone but to tell the truth - and the truth occasionally does one some good.

Lord Allen of Abbeydale describes Bancroft as one of the few people who, when their name went up on the television screen of speakers in the House of Lords, could cause an influx of the peers to hear what he was saying. "He was very eloquent both in speech and on paper." says Allen. For example, Bancroft went on in his maiden speech: I am sure I will commit every sole-cism and infelicity known to your Lordships, because, after all, I have spen my time, on the whole, dratt-ing speeches for others to read rather than making them myself.

Bancroft believed that, so long as we have our parliamentary democracy, the essential role of the Civil Service should be unchanging; namely, to act both as a hallast and, if need be, an engine in a constitution which includes a volatile and increasingly powerful executive, and a volatile and, unul very recently, increasingly regimented legislature; a ballast and engine of permanent officers, duly subordinate to ministers yet possessing sufficient independence, character, ahility and experience to be able to advise, assist and to some extent influence those who are from time to time set above them. He believed in the timeless

Those verities for Bancroft extended from the Permanent Secretary advising the minister to the voungest clerk in a local office earing for clients beyond the call of duty. In order to perform its role effectively, the service had to be self-confident. Recently something had gone far wrong when too many civil servants had become furtive or apologetic about their occupation. If some of our fellow citizens seemed to have lost confidence in the Civil Service, Bancroft thought that it was any rate partly as a result of the Civil Service's loss of

confidence in itself. He simply could not fathom the refusal of the Government last year to commission an independent attitude survey of its own employees. He was contemptuous of the need to rely on anecdotal evidence. Bancroft helieved that the Civil Service was handicapped by being mucked around too much, too rapidly and too incestuously. He identified a gap between

the words and actions of ministers - the almost total breakup of a unified service into hundreds of semi-autonomous agencies, each under its own chief executive. "It makes for a cat's cradle of lines of accountability, rather like the work of a clever idiot trying to map Tom Tiddler's ground.

Bancroft argued that it was the natural condition of any public service to be corrupt: If that is much less true in Britain than in other countries, it is because for a long time now, but by no means time out of mind, our civil service has maintained high standards of probity. That has not come about by accident. High standards have persisted because they became deeply ingrained in the ethos of the service. That ethow was rapidly absorbed by new arrivals, whose very method of recruitment to the service – by open connection—set the rose. They soon If that is much less true in Britain competition - set the tone. They soon learnt from their elders what was expected of them.

Until Bancroft left Whitehall

Trevelyan Report of 1854, he continued to ask himself the question. "What would Bridges. Brook, or Scrpell [Lord Bridges, Lord Normanbrook and Sir David Serpell] have done in like circumstances?" He recalled that the ethos was further safeguarded by the tradition that the service offered a lifetime's career.

The last great issue of Bancroft's life was to mobilise opmion against farming out the key issue of recruitment to the Civil Service. Memorahly, along with Lord Allen, in March this year he mobilised 124 peers to defeat 64 government loyalists on the issue of recruitment to the Civil Service. In the lohby with him were warlords such as Lord Ackner and Lord Simon of Glaisdale heside former Conservative ministers such as Lord Orr-Ewing and Lord Rippon of Hexham.

Bancroft was concerned

about any idea of having to renew contracts. The first pillar of integrity was a career service whose members could persist in giving frank if unwelcome advice to ministers without the prospect of their contracts being ended or not renewed. The second was a unified service. bound together by a common ethos, where the best talent could be promoted on merit. without regard to departmental boundaries. The third pillar of the Civil Service was recruitment through open competition by an independent body protected against interterence from any source whatever. He saw the first two pillars as having been chipped away in the late 1980s and early 1990s. The final straw was to sell off the recruitment and assessment

"We are discussing," he snapped in the Lords debate on 8 March, 'a matter of high policy, not a mechanical weeding husiness.

Ian Bancroft was the son of a teacher and HM Inspector of Schools and educated at Sir



William Turner's Grammar School, Coatham, near Redcar in Cleveland. He won a scholarship to Balliol College, Oxford, gaining an honours degree in English and coming under the influence of the famous Master of Balliol Sandy Lindsay, In 1942 he left Oxford to join the Rifle Brigade and served as a captain from Normandy to the Rhine, A colleague who thought that he was altogether too serious a civil servant qualified his judgement by recalling that Bancroft, an admirer of Louis Armstrong, had painted on his hren-gun carrier "St

James's Infirmary Blues". On demobilisation Bancroft possed the civil service exam, entered the Treasury and was promoted to the post of Private Secretary to the Second Secretary to the Treasury. Sir Henry Wilson Smith, who had respon-

sibility in the Treasury for the international currency prob-lems being faced by Stafford Cripps and Hugh Gaitskell. He served in the private of-

fice of Rab Butler, who described him as "the best Private Secretary I ever had". Second-ed to the Cabinet Office for a couple of years, Bancroft went back to the Treasury in the key position of Principal Private Secretary in Reginald Mandling. This was the period when the Chancellor went for expansion. as he put it in his 1978 Memoirs,

quite deliberately, with our eyes open, recognising the dangers. The prize to be obtained, the prospect of expansion without inflation, the end of stop-go and a breakout from the constrictions of the past, was a glitering one, My policy has been described as a "dash for freedom". I think that is ascribing to me, rather unusually, an excess of energy and enthusiasm. In fact, the whole policy was

diberate, calculated and coherent. No one could guarantee success, but the chances were high and the al-ternatives were drab and depressing.

The first time I met Ian Bancroft was when I went with a young Scottish colleague to see Reggie Maudling on the question of whether aid could be given to developing countries in the form of surplus trucks from the BMC factory at Bathgate in my constituency. After we had seen the Chancellor, who was sympathetic but critical. Bancroft took the trouble - he was under no obligation whatsoever to do so - to explain to two very green MPs the thinking behind what Maudling had said. He was the first senior civil servant that I had ever met and I formed the strong impression that he cared deeply and would go to endless trouble to explain the convictions behind advice that his colleagues had given. He was a deeply caring man.

On the election of the Labour government lames Callaghan was only too happy to inherit such a loyal Private Secretary who Maudling rec-ommended to him as "a hell of a nice chap - clear vision, great tact". Callaghan describes him as "my strong right arm for three years". Indeed, many years later, on 1 February 1995. the then ennobled Lord Bancroft was to say in an aside to the peers, "On a personal note I relished all the many ministers I served except one." That one was, of course, Mrs Thatcher,

In 1966 Bancroft left the Private Office just before the terrible statement of 20 July when the Labour government public expenditure plans were blown off course. I have heard it ared that had Bancroft been in the Chancellor of the Exche-quer's Private Office the results of the economie storm would not have been so catastrophic as they turned out to be.

Bancroft progressed from being an Under-Secretary, 1966-68, to the newly estab-

ment in the last two years of the Labour government. Under Edward Heath he was Director General of Organisation and Establishments in the Department of the Environment, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Customs and Excise and then Second Permanent Secretary in the Civil Service Department Under the Labour government he was Permanent Secretary, in succession to his close friend Sir David Serpell, during a period when relations between the Labour government and local government, not least Labour local

authorities, were pretty fraught. The 1974-76 Committee on Local Government Finance, under Sir Frank Layfield, had recommended far-reaching changes in the direction of greater financial independence. But local authorities, particularly the Labour fiefdoms in the cities, were overspending their agreed public expenditure allocations and Bancroft had to argue the case for greater and not lesser control by central government of local govern-ment spending. However, unusually for Permanent Secretaries, he established an exeellent working relationship

with the building industry.
On the retirement of Sir Douglas Allen, now Lord Croham, as Head of the Home Civd Service in October 1977, Bancroft was preferred to Sir Frank Cooper as his successor

designate.

However, the incoming Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, was determined to improve what she saw as the "efficiency of the Civil Service. Actually, Bancroft was not automatically opposed to a re-duction in the size of the Civil Service and was loyal to the point of playing his full part in trying to achieve the incoming government's targets. However, a published commitment to achieve a reduction of 20 per

lished Civil Service Depart- cent over five years, in the absence of any thought-out, clear and detailed proposals as to how this was to be done, was catastrophic for civil-service morale. He was sore at the appointment of a new efficiency unit to be headed by Sir Derek Rayner, an "outsider" from Marks & Spencer and not under the umbrella of the Civil Service

Department Thatcher's decision in 1981 to get rid of the Civil Service Department altogether and to di-vide its functions between a new Manpower and Personnel Office within the Cabinet Office. and the Treasury, and to designate the Permanent Secretary to the Treasury and the Secretary of the Cabinet as joint heads of the Home Civil Service, in fact determined the end of Bancroft's career as a civil servant.

Tam Dalyell

lan Powell Bancroft, civil servant: born Barrow-in-Furness 23 De-cember 1922; Private Secretary to the Second Secretary to the Treasurv (Sir Henry Wilson Smith) 1948-50, the Chancellor of die Ex-chequer (R.A. Butler) 1953-55. the Lord Privy Seal (R.A. Butler) 1955-57; Principal Private Sec-retary to the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Reginald Maudling, James Callaghan) 1964-66; Under-Secretary, HM Treasury 1966-68, Civil Service Department 1968-70; Deputy Secretary, Di-rector General of Organisation and Establishments, Department of the Environment 1970-72: CB 1971, KCB 1975, GCB 1979; a Commissioner of Customs and Excise 1972-73; Second Permanent Secretary, Civil Service Department 1973-75; Permanent Secretary, Department of the Environment 1975-77; Head of the Home Civil Service and Permanent Secretary to the Civil Service Department 1978-81: created 1982 Baron Bancroft; married 1950 Jean Swaine (two sons, one daughter); died London 19 November 1996.

David Herbert

David Herbert was a leading publisher of his time who dedicated his innovative mind to creating high-quality, visually attractive books, many of them of educational value. These books were, unusually, almost always self-financing, Herbert believed in the value of nurturing authors and those whose skills helped him to fulfil his creative ideas: to him people mattered more than anything else.
David Herbert, descended

was born in Ci London, in 1927 and after schooling at Rughy studied English Literature at Trinity College, Cambridge, In 1949 he succeeded in joining Penguin after many applications to Allen Lanc, who later teasingly told him that he had only taken him on to save the postage on his rejection letters. Herhert described Allen Lane many years later as "a genuine revolutionary with an educational message". Lane was to give him the experience and inspiration to develop his own qualities in the same direction. It was at Penguin in 1952 that Herbert first met Brenda Swann, his wife and constant companion,

Herbert was then offered the opportunity to teach English, Drama and Spanish at Christ's Hospital, in Sussex, where he remained from 1955 to 1961, thus satisfying a deep

desire to teach young people He then joined the graphic arts publishers Studio Vista at a time when art teaching was changing rapidly to a more experimental approach: he set about creating books to meet this need, and caught the new mood exactly with the first book he worked on. Basic Design: the dynamics of visual form (1964), by Maurice Sausmarez, which has been a continuous seller ever since. This was published in Studio from the family of George Her-ben, the Metaphysical poet. Lewis and was followed by Paperbacks edited by John many other successiul mies.

Herbert also published such books as Fop An: object and imuge hy Christopher French (1965), An Deco by Bevis Hillier (1965), Kinetic Art by Guy Brett (1968), Kitsch: au antholpey of had taste by Gillo Dorfles (1968) and Op An by Cyril Barren (1969), all pioneering titles in their field. Parallel with this development was his expansion of practical art and craft books like Motley's Designing and Making Stage Costume (1964) and Julian Trevelvan's Etching (1967).

From the publication of his first book, Herbert's flair was recognised by foreign publishers, and he had no difficulties in selling large editions of every book to the United States.

In 1968 Studio Vista was bought by Crowell, Collier and Macmillan and the heavy hand of the American conglomerates hegan to make itself felt. Her-



bert was offered a directorship in George Rainhird, part of the Thomson Organisation, in 1972. After this experience he decided that large conglomerates were not conducive to creating books of real quality, and he began to lay plans with his wife to form his own imprint, the Herhert Press, whose first titles were published in 1976; this was to he the culmination of his career. The aim of the Herbert Press was to remain small so that they could devote time to close relations with authors and to producing their books.

which were to be self-financing. The Herben Press, of which I was privileged to be a director in recent years, was an in-

stant success as Herbert followed the same aims he had employed at Studio Vista in a modern context. Among his successes were Bill Riseboro's The Story of Wistern Architecture (1979), now in seven languages, Redoute's Fairest Flowers (1987), which sold over 30,000, and the trade edition of Christopher Skelton's The Complete Engravings of Eric Gill (1990).

I shared a stand at the Frankfurt Book Fair with David Herbert one year and watched the steady stream of foreign publishers coming to see him on the first day to find out about his new books and to sign them up for their markets.

A year after, in 1995, Herbert

sold his company to A. & C. Black, for whom he continued to work, he contracted cancer. which he fought with his usual fortitude. During that period he managed to create his last beautiful book. Stories in Stone: the nudicual roof carrings, of Nor wich Cathebral, by Martial Rose and Julia Hedgecoe. Herbert had spent his childhood in Norwich, where his father was the Bishop. The book will be published in February.

David Mark Herbert, publisher: born Lundon 2 January 1927 niarried 1955 Brenda Swann

leading light in Jungian circles in Britain for over 30 years. She berself was one of the last to analyse in Zurich with Carl Jung and throughout her longyears of analytical work she was acutely aware of handing on

Vera von der Heydt was the

the true spirit of the master's wisdom and methods. Born in Berlin in 1899, she was the second daughter of Paul von Schurabach and El-

canor Schröder. Her father was a prosperous merchant banker and a Jew, while her mother blood. She was well educated and to the end of her life retained a sharp and inquiring mind. On the day after Armistice (11 December 1918) she was married to Baron Eduard von der Heydt. She was not yet 19, and he was her senior by over 10 years and the Kaiser's banker. Their marriage ended in divorce in 1927 and Vera

returned to her family home. In 1933, as Hitler came to power, she took the reluctant tep of leaving her family and moving to England. She first earned her living in the film world and as reader for a literary agency; but her energies were slowly turning to her two great lifelong quests, religion and the inner world. In 1937, she was received into the Roman Catholic faith by Father Martin D'Arcy. Later as war came she moved in Oxford and

Baroness Vera von der Heydt hegan analysis with John Layard In 1943, she moved to Edinburgh, Here Winifred

> At the invitation of Carl Jung, von der Heydt was to spend three years in Zurich. She analysed with Joland Jacobi as well as with Jung himself. In 1951 she returned to London and set up in practice. She soon established herself as a

Vera von der Heydt was every inch the baroness; indeed her whole manner and bearing derived from pre-First-World-War Berlin society, and there was a part of her that resented her exile and her role as refugee. She was a woman of

dramatic opposites; she could be kind and breathtakingly generous, yet she could cut a person down in public with a whiplash Rushforth was engaged in pioneering work at the Davidson remark. In public, she was a forclinic. Von der Heydt joined the midable and commanding chair. team, staying through the war years and into the early Fifties. in private, she was an excellent cook and generous hostess.

In a remarkable television statement - part of the Light of Experience series - von der Heydt described her life's journey as a quest. There was the need to heal the "split between my Jewish and my Aryan heritage"; but there was also the day, a new starting point; one finds, one loses; one knows, one does not know".

In her clinical work, von der Heydt was tireless, working with clients until she was well into her eighties. Her influence upon the Jungian scene in Britain was profound and extended over three decades. As chair and later honorary Fellow of the Guild of Pastoral Psychology (the think-tank of the Jungians) she found professional satisfaction in proclaiming and nurturing for her future the techniques and teachings which Carl Jung had handed on in her.

John Skinner

Vera von Schurabach, psychoanalyst: born Berlin 11 December 1899; married 1918 Baron Eduard von der Hevdt (marriage dissolved 1927); died London 14

November 1996.

Births. Marriages & Deaths

BIRTHS

BAKER: On IS Neveraber, in Gile- and Sandra, at Derby City Hospital, a doughter, Emma Leigh Iona. OBAYE On 12 November, in Adenrele Ince Ojesipe I and Tony, a daughter, Egiliwebi Aduragbemi Nwayinmehor

DEATHS

SIMPSON: On 19 November, after a short ithress, Dr. Esther Simpson OBE, Legton d'Honneur, Oesterreichische Ehrenkreur für Wissensthaft und Kurst. Hon LLD (Leedst, Hon LLD (Lundont, Hon MRCP, a beloved aunt to Vivian and Julia and geut aunt to Rebecet and Judith Formany wars Assistant Secretary of the ny years Assistant Secretary of the Society for the Protection of Science and Learning and the Society for the Visiting Scientists, A liteless wilker for the oppressed. Thanks to stall at the Royal Free Hospital. There will be no tuneral ceremony, at Dr Simpson's own request.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS Prince Edward, Charman, beds a medium of the Innternational Council of the Innternational Council of the Innternational Council of the Innternational Association is described as Marian attends, the Pulse of Edinburgh's Award International Association in Inntegal Pomer at the Acoust Association in Inntegal Pomer and Inntegal Council Inntegal Pomer and Innt

Changing of the Guard
The Hunehold Carate Mounted Regiment
inputs the Quard of the Guard at Horse Guards,
11am. 1st Battaline Welch Guards majors the
Onem's Guard, at Bardsheim Paloce, 11. Mari.
hand provided by the Welch Luards.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. S. Peck

The engagement is announced between Adrian, younger son of Mr and Mrs Roger Peck, of Stansted Mountfrichet. Essex, and Jessica, younger daughter of Mr Roger Mattingly, of York, and Mrs Janet Mattingly, of

and Miss J. M. Mattingly

Birthdays

Leigh on Sea, Exerc.

The Right Rev Michael Adie, former Bishop of Guldford, n7: The Rev Lord Beaumont of Whitley, priest and writer, 68; Mr Boris Becker, tennis champion, 29; Mr John Bird, actor, olt Mr Jon Cleary, novelist, 79; Mr Tom Conti, actor and director, 54: Mr Brian Dance, former Headmayter, St Dunstan's College, Carford, 67; Brigadier Hilary Dixon-Nuttall. Matron-in-Chief and Director, Arm Nursing Services, 57: Mr Terry Gilliam, animator, writer and direcfor, 56; Sir Peter Hall, director of plays, films and operas, ore Land Flenlee. Minister of State. Education and Employment, 43: Sir Andrew Huxley, physiologist and former Master of Trimin College, Cambridge, 74 Mr Robert tittle, chairman, Yattendon Imestment Trust, 52; Mrs Billie Jean King, tennis champion, 55; Professor Sir John Knill, geologist, (12) Mr Wayne Larkins, cricketer, 43; Mr Peter McMaster, former Director General, the Ordinance Survey, 16: Mr Mushtaq Mohammed, ericketer, 53; Mr John Newman, trade union ist, 65: Sir John Owen, High Court judge, 71: Mr Robin Reeve, Head Master, King's College School, Wim-

bledon, n2: Mr Gunther Schüller.

composer, 7t; Mr Robert Vauehn, ac-

tot, 64; Sir Michael Walker, former

diplomat. 80; Mr Nicotas Walter. manager. Rationalist Press Associa-

Anniversaries Births: Thomas Cook travel agent (Sils: George Eliot (Mary Ann

Evans), novelist, 1819; General Charles-André Marie-Joseph de Gaulle, French president, UNA: Edward Benjamin Britten, Baron Britten, composer, 1913, Deaths: Sir Martin Frobistier, navigator, 1394; Aldous Leonard Huxley, 1963: John Fuzgerald Kennedy, A5th US President, assissinated 1965; Mac West actions, 1982; Anthony Burgess (John Anthony Burgess Wilson), novelist, philologist, composer and critic, 1995. On this day: Vasco da Gama rounded the Cape of Good Hope, 1497; Margaret Thatcher resigned as

Saints Philemon and Apphia.

Lectures National Gallery: Mari Griffith. Wind (iv): Daumier, The Janndays", lem. Victoria and Albert Museum: Peta Feeten, "Sculptures by the Della Rob-bia Family", 2.50pm. Tate Galtery: Chloc Chard in con-

Prime Minister, 1991, Today is the

Feast Day of St Cecilia or Cecily and

versation with Peterde Bolla, "Looking Like a Connoisseur". 1pm. Gresbam College, Barnard's Inn Hall, London ECt: Professor Colin Pillinger, "Where Do Meteorites Really Come From", Ipm.

Luncheons

Foreign and Commonwealth (Mice Mr Malcolm Rifkind QC MP, Secretary of State for Foreign and Com-monwealth Affairs, held a luncheon

yesterday at I Carlton Gardens, London SW1, in honour of Mr Josef Zieleniee, Minister for Foreign Alfairs of the Cach Republic.

Dinners

Lord Justice Peter Gibson, Treasur er. Lincoln's line, was the hirst at the evening at Lincoln's Inn, London WCL Among the guests were: The Earl of Linerick, Lord Runce: Lon-

Radiguous of Ewell, Lard Unique Berneck and Lady Llard; Lord Nich desor Britenhead, Lard Hope of Cranchead, Sir Jam Glober elle Lard Hope of Cranchead, Sir Jam Glober elle Lard Justice Leggait, Lord Justice Samon Brown; Lord Justice Carswell, Lardy Gibson, Mr Junes Budone Idamial Sir Jock Shier Sir Robin Bullet, Mess Clare Frances, Mr Control Delm UC: Mr Rachard Smethurs, M. Change Cachaell Process France Republic Oct: Processor Jack Beatson: Air John Holand: Miss Libbs Puries Captain EM.

European-Atlantic Group Mr Michael Portillo MP, Secretary of

State for Defence, was the guest of honour at a meeting of the European Atlantic Group held vesterday evening at St Ermin's Hotel, London SWI, where he spoke on "Global Security". Viscount Montgomery of Alamein was in the chair.

Synagogue services

Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 3.48pm.

United Synagogues 0171-387 4300. Federation of Synagogues: 0181-202 2263. Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues: 0171-580 1063. Reform Synagogues: of Great Britain: 0181-349 4731. Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregation: 0171-289 2573. New London Synapogue (Masserti): 0171-328

Concurrent sentences to be treated as one

Prison, ex parte Evans; R ▼ Covernor of Onley Young Offenders Institution, Rugby, ex

(one son, one daughter); died

London 18 November 1996.

parte Reid; Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Bingham of Cornhill, Lord Chief Justice. Lord Justice Rose, Mr Justice Blofeld) 15 November 1996

Where a person was sentenced to concurrent terms of imprisonment, the amount by which time served was to be niffset by time spent in custody on remand was to be calculated by treating the concurrent terms as a single term and making a single deduction in respect of remand time, rather than by treating the sentences and remand periods for each offence separately and so reducing the total term only by the remand time relating to the last expiring sentence

The Oueen's Bench Divisional Court granted Michele Evans and Paul Reid leave to apply for judicial review of decisions calculating their respective release dates which had not taken account of all separate periods of custody on remand prior to the imposition of concurrent sentences of imprisonment.

Edward Fitzgerald QC and Pete

LAW REPORT

Mansfield QC and Martin Soorjoo IJ.R. Jones, Ealing) for Reid; Stephen Richards and Michael Fordham (Treasury Solicitor) for the

Lord Bingham CJ referred to sections 33(1), 41 and 51(2) of the Criminal Justice Act 1991 and section 67(1A) and 104(2) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 (as amended by the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984). In interpreting the com-

bined effect of these provisions the respondents contended that time spent in custody in connection with a particular offence could only be used to reduce the sentence imposed for that offence, not any other for which the defendant might be sentenced concurrently (the "particular" approach). The applicants contended that the concurrent sentences were to be treated as a single term, against which the whole period of pre-sentence custody was to be set (the "aggregate" approach).

Four previous decisions of the Divisional Court supported the particular approach: Wetherby flohn Howell & Co. see Rv Governor of Blundeston Sheffield) for Evans: Michael Prison, ex p Gaffney [1982] 1 count towards time served in

22 November 1996

WLR 696, Rv Home Secretary, ex p Read (1987) 9 Cr App R (S) 206, R v Gavernor of Styal Prison, exp Mooney [1996] 1 Cr App R (S) 74 and R v Home Secretary, ex p Woodward (unreported, 24 June 1996). But the particular approach had been criticised and in R v

Home Secretary, exp Naughton (Law Report, 8 October 1996) the Divisional Court had commented on the absurdity of the particular approach if (as they held it should not he) applied to consecutive sentences. His Lordship concluded as

follows. Section 33(1) of the 1991 Act required the Home Secretary to release short-term orisoners such as the applicants after serving half their sentences. For this purpose section 51(2) required "sentences" to be treated as single terms even though made up of separate consecutive or concurrent terms. The length of that single term expired when the last of the concurrent or

overlapping sentences expired. The reference to sentence in section 41 of the 1991 Act (under which time spend remanded in custody was to.

to section 51(1). A short-term prisoner was accordingly to be treated as having served such part of the half of his sentence he was required to serve as was to be regarded as a "relevant part" of that sentence as dc. fined in section 67(1A) of the 1967 Act.

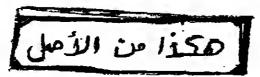
In section 67(1A), which defined the relevant part as any period during which the offender was in police detention or remanded in custody in connection with "the offence for which the sentence was sed" or "proceedings relating to that sentence or the offence for which il was passed". the singular was to be interpreted by virtue of section 6(c) of the Interpretation Act 1978 as including the plural, no contrary intention appearing.

Thus time spent in custody in relation to any of the offences for which sentence was passed should count to reduce the term to be served, subject always to the condition that time could never be counted more than once.

The construction put on the provisions under review in the four previous cases supporting the particular approach was wrong and produced injustice.

1

Paul Magrath, Barrister



The Tories tell lies because we let them

n Tuesday the Conservatives made 39 allegations about Labour's spending plans. Perhaps 10 or a dozen of them were realways has an advantage in the run-up to the election. But this time the Consonable queries about Labour policies. The remainder - nearly 80 - are Tory lies. Labour has not promised to spend the money as the Tories claimed - indeed, Tony Blair and Gordon Brown have succeeded in ensuring that none of Labour's spokespeople makes any commitments that are not accounted for.

Yesterday the Government was at it again, this time on Labour's proposal for a windfall tax on privatised utilities. The Prime Minister told us the levy would cost people £200 on their gas and electricity bills. Another lie. The windfall levy will hit shareholders, not customers.

A few exaggerations here and there are part of the game in the run-up to an election. Politicians desperate to catch and hold voters' attention will simplify their claims and caricature the opposi-tion. Let's admit it: even the odd journalist is occasionally guilty of a little distortion in the interest of winning quick understanding. But this week's Conservative campaign is merely mendacious. Even worse, civil servants were exploited in the exercise. Conservative strategists began by falsely claiming that their costings had the endorsement of the head of the civil service, Sir Robin Butler, Second, civil servants' time and taxpayers' resources were wasted doing silly sums based on foolish assumptions about way, but the prudence has paid off.

servatives are abusing that position.

Conservative strategists, led by Brian Mawhinney, seem to think electioneering is a sport in which the party with the cleverest manipulation and the cheapest slogan wins most applause. Wrong. Even m a climate of popular apathy and media bias, parties should maintain a certain level of integrity. We hope voters will closely follow the actions of every political party, certainly we will holler when they overstep the mark, as the Conservatives did this week.

When the Conservatives launched an identical attack on Labour's spending plans before the last election, they had a much stronger case. Labour did indeed plan to raise pensions and child benefit to the tune of several billion. The figure attached by the Conservatives to Labour's plans may have been rather arbitrary, but the general message was plausible enough: Labour wanted to spend more money. But we are in a different world now. For four and a half years (under both John Smith and Tony Blair) iron discipline has been applied. The position is clear: new policies must be paid for within existing resources (or, in a few cases, from the windfall tax). Shadow Cabinet colleagues and party members may have winced along the



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Of course the real test of politicians' integrity is not the remarks they make about the opposition before an election, but whether they will deliver on their own promises after one. The Conservatives failed to do so in 1992 - raising taxes after promising to cut them. George Bush did the same in America after 1988. A British party that reneges on its promises this time around risks destroying any credibility its politicians still have with voters. As Blair and Brown well know, if a new Labour government were to spend and tax with abandon after pre-election promises of austerity, it would destroy all hope of re-election.

There is every reason for believing that the Labour leadership will keep just as tight a rein over loose-lipped and loosepursed colleagues in government as it has in opposition. The more serious problem is that the political fight over tax and spending may tie a future govern-ment's hands in reacting to new and unforeseen circumstances. At the moment the public finances remain in a rather dubious state, despite the betterthan-expected news on government borrowing this week. If any party gets

take. Pretending that everything can always be met within existing budgets is simply dishonest.

The Liberal Democrats at least are prepared to admit as much. Yesterday they cheerfully set out proposals to oppose all Budget tax cuts, and to increase income tax in order to increase spending on education. To the extent that they are facing up to the need for higher investment in certain areas, their approach is welcome. But the Liberal Democrats are going further. They are openly betting that voters actually want to pay higher taxes for better public services, and are willing to vote accordingly.

Sadly, apart from a few committedly altruistic voters, the Lib Dems are kidding themselves. In spite of all the polling evidence that the public wants more spent on the NHS, most people still believe that taxes, and in particular their own, are too high. Labour has been astute to recognise that and search for more imaginative ways (through the windfall tax) to raise new revenue without having to increase income tax.

In fact, the inconsistencies of public opinion must bear some of the blame for both the restrictive prudence of the Labour Party and the campaigning methods of the Conservatives. If we voters were not so neurotic about the trapped into promising never to increase prospect of higher taxes, then our politi-the overall level of spending or taxation, or denying that such increases could ever debate about the needs of our public ser-

be necessary, then it is making a big miswhat we earn on ourselves. Labour would not need to be so restricted in its policy proposals, and the Conservatives would not bother running misinformation campaigns against them. The behavjour of the Conservative Party in the last week has been appalling, but it cannot take all the blame. As voters, to some extent, we get the politics and the campaigning we deserve. The more we turn our backs on this kind of campaign, the sooner politicians will concentrate on what matters.

Touchy-feely dad is still a lad

"hildren like "new men". According to the latest evidence, they want dad to be around, to pay them attention, to euddle and love them and touchy-feeh things like that. And dads, it seems, are

starting to get the hang of it.
It's only a start, mind. Daughters still get less of dad's time and attention than sons. Mothers still provide most of the children's emotional support and comfort. Chiddren turn to father first only over money, sport and trouble with you guessed it - mum. And how do you think dad spends most of his time with the children? Watching telly, It looks like New Dad is just a New Lad.

- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

Vital facts kept from foster parents

Sir. Foster care (letters, 18, 20 November) might be more successful if the foster parents were given full and honest details about a child's past home life and present behaviour patterns.

My mother, a very experienced long-term foster carer, has repeatedly not been given vital information about the children she looks after. She has been asked to look after children who, unknown to her, have been involved in the abuse of other children, whilst also caring for children who have themselves been sexually abused. Likewise, to be asked withou warning to care for a violent child is inappropriate.

Children with difficult behaviour patterns need special care, supervision and tuition. Placing them in foster homes where their carer has no chance of knowing fully what they need, why they are afraid of certain situations and so on does a disservice to the children and carers alike. If social services gave an honest background about the child, rather than omitting important details for fear of failure to place the child, placements would have a chance, at least, of lasting. KAREN ILLINGWORTH Manchester

Tunnel not the worst risk

Sir: That the fire in the Channel Tunnel was a serious event there can be no doubt, but hasn't this one incident been blown up out of all proportion? Vast numbers of people and vast tonnages of freight have used the tunnel since it opened without mishap until then. By all accounts the emergency procedures worked satisfactorily; everyone was evacuated and there was no loss of life. The very same day one lorry driver was sadly killed and three others seriously injured in an accident on the M6.

I and my family have used the tunnel on a number of occasions and accept the fact that all travel involves risk. However, I remain convinced that the risks involved in travelling through the Channel Tunnel are minimal when compared with the risks involved in driving from our home to the Folkestone terminal via the M25 and M20. NEIMONEILL Dorking, Surrey

Sir: The recent accident in the Channel Tunnel ("Darkness at the end of the tunnel, 20 November) raises questions of safety not only in the tunnel but also on cross-Channel ferries.

On a recent trip to Britanny I was travelling in a car as a passenger. We were directed to an upper deck in which the cars were packed so tight that the only possible way to leave the car was by climbing out on the driver's side, which would have been impossible for anyone less than agile. Even then there was less than 18 inches of space on the driver's side.

In the event of a fire on the car decks whilst loading, it would have been impossible for many passengers to leave their cars amid the smoke, heat and anxiety of all to leave. The loading officer 1 spoke to on the ferry said he realised the problem but was under instructions to get all the cars on, irrespective of their width. BOB WILLIS Bitton, Avon



No animals, no countryside

Sir: These are stirring times in which to be a beef farmer and goodness knows we have enough trouble down on the farm without the likes of Danny Penman ("Man and beast", 18 November) emoting

Has he never heard of the organic method of rearing animals? Does he really think that none of us care, on dark, cold mornings and long, hot days, for the beasts in our There are abused farm animals,

but I should like to see a battery hen survive for a day after having its beak sliced off. Even hens raised quite unintensively have to have their top beak snipped with a cauteriser; anyone who knows the opportunistic, carnivorous nature of the beady-eyed fowl appreciates that this small operation is a necessary evil. Vegetarian animal-righters come

up with no solution as to what rural life would be about without farm animals. No milk without meat, and there would be no wheat without manure - unless one wants the rivers full of nitrates. Should farmhouses be full of computer firms and holidaymakers whose children look in vain for lambs in springtime? PENELOPE REID

Sir, Robert Carr's farm may be run on humane lines (letter, 20 November) but there are many, influenced by the financial advantage of over-intensive production of livestock, that are

The welfare of animals will

continue to deteriorate so long as they are designated as mere 'commodities' in the Treaty of Rome. Unless steps are taken to get animals re-categorised as sentient beings", we may be faced with the nightmare of scientists believing they can solve the problem of animal abuse by producing an apparently senseless" strain which shows no aversion to discomfort, deprivation or pain, which would be the ultimate obscenity. JOAN HAGGARD

Key MPs deny 'influence'

Harpenden, Hertfordshire

Sir. We are surprised that you have chosen, particularly at this stage, to raise a matter which relates to our roles as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Select Committee on the Channel Tunnel Rail Link

The article "Ministers subvert Kent blight inquiry" (14 November), refers to a "leaked letter" from Sir George Young MP to William Waldegrave MP. The letter, your correspondent suggests, indicates that Sir George intended to "influence" us to ensure that the cost of constructing the rail link was minimised.

The committee devoted several eragraphs of its special report to the House of Commons to the issue of blight. The Committee said that "the present law appears totally inadequate in situations in which a

reduction in the price of a property is attributable to a project such as the rail link, even though the property will not actually be physically affected.

As the correspondent rightly points out, the letter was the subject of exchanges between MPs on the select committee in October We were instructed by the

committee to see Sir George and John Watts MP to clarify the matter. We did so, and on 34 October, 1995, reported back to the committee, reading into the committee's public record a letter Sir Anthony had received from Sir George. In it be said that "I am happy to reaffirm that the Government has not in the past, and will not in the future, bring any undue influence to bear upon the select committee or its chairman. Our approach to you and your committee will continue to be one appropriate to the promoters of a Hybrid Bill, recognising the quasijudicial role of the select committee and your independence

as its chairman. The matter was not in our recollection, raised before the committee again, which would suggest that all involved with the committee's proceedings members of the committee, promoters and petitioners - were content.

SIT ANTHONY DURANT MP (Reading West, Con) SIr IRVINE PATNICK MP (Sheffield Hallam, Con) House of Commons London SW1

Museum's entry charge dilemma

Sir: The British Museum "must not go down the path indicated by Mr Edwards", croaks Andreas Whittam Smith in his article (18 November) about my "trendy

In fact, the "path" indicated in my report is not at all what Mr Whittam Smith says. What the report does say is that, given the projected deficit in the museum's budget and the prospective levels of government funding, the museum will have to choose between two broad options, both unpalatable:

(a) continuing with free admission at the cost of severe cuts in core activities, reduced opening hours and public services, an inability to maintain the huilding properly, minimal expenditure on acquisitions and the loss of perhaps one third of the staff, and

(b) funding what the Museum does and badly needs to do with the help of an admission charge which it would much prefer not to introduce and a smaller reduction n staff overheads. On exhibiting the collections, my

'evident disapproval" of what the museum does is more evident to Mr Whittam Smith than to me. ANDREW EDWARDS London SIV19

Sir. Sadly there are few museums now that allow free access, so the news about the British Museum comes as a depressing blow. The

Britons who served Africa

Sir: Andrew Marshall ("Heart of prejudice", 20 November) is certainly right in one respect: those of us whn went out to Africa had high hopes and a belief that we were going to do good. The remainder of his article ignores the achievements of a handful of administrators, doctors, nurses, teachers, agriculturists and others in the 1940s and 1950s. This was an era of peace, justice, security and development, both economic and

We glac"v pursued the British government's objective of granting independenc 't' tries such as Uganda, where I served in the administration from 1955 to 1965. li may be that Uganda cou been better prepared for independence if we had been more positive in the 1950s in planning a timetable for a reasonable period of self-government leading to independence in the late 1960s or early 1970s. However, Mr Macmillan gave in to pressures from left-wingers and the Americans and ordered us in cut and run from East Africa in the early 1960s.

Nevertheless, older Ugandans today, as their country recovers from the regimes of Amin and Obote, remember our years with gradude. Now, under President Museveni, there are once again high hopes for Uganda's future. ALAN FORWARD

Victims of the .22 handgun

Government argues that people

Museums are not there for

entertainment: they are

should pay for their entertainment

repositories of culture, history, and

knowledge in a form that is unique.

Free access to museums has

always allowed the possibility of

just a short time; to sample the

items. This kind of access is

uccessive visit.

DEREK LEE

Wealdstone, Middlesex

entering, at will, for the day or for

whole briefly or to concentrate on one particular item or group of

particularly important for young children, who do not always have

long attention spans but who, none the less, invariably find something

to stimulate their interest with each

tourists or academics. I have visited

something "new" on each occasion.

Nor is that kind of access

unimportant for adults, be they

the British Museum for over 20

years and I have always found

Eager warrior

immediately when his father

of the war, he joined the Navy.

discharged with a medical

after the fall of Dunkirk.

with him in his eighties.

DEREK GRIFFITHS Church Strenon. Shropshire

Sir, My father-in-law managed to

join the army in 1914 at the uge of 14, only to be discharged almost

discovered the attempt (letters, 13,

16, 20 November). At 18, at the end

serving for some years before being

condition "that would get worse".

Undaunted, he knocked a year

off his age in 1939, and saw service

in France, blowing up ammunition

dumps ahead of the German army

His medical condition caught up

Sir: All handguns should be hanned except for people in uniform who carry them for the protection of the public (letter, 19 November).

The .22 handgun is not injurious to humans? What about my schoolmate shut in the stomach accidentally? He did not even get to the hospital alive. The weapon involved in the tragedy was a .22 revolver. What about the two men. albeit they were looters, shot in front of me with a .22 rifle? One died instantaneously, the second died while I was writing down his particulars.

I write as one who for six years in uniform carried a pistol on my hip. That weapon was solely to destroy human life. GEORGE O'NEILL

Sir: I remember the authorities once deciding that motorcycles above 250cc were too dangerous for beginners, who were then restricted to the much less powerful machines below 250cc. Most new sales are to beginners. The motorcycle industry reacted by developing within this restriction machines of no lesser power than the nider "large" motorhikes. How long hefore we face 22 pistok with the power of today's 44 magnums? PHIL PAYNE Isham, Northamptonshire

Sir: It was worrying to read that the Sportsman's Association believes the Firearms Bill will "dislocate the lives of tens of thousands of sportsmen" (letter, 19 November). A person who will be "dislocated" by the withdrawal of their right to shoot handguns would seem to me to be an inappropriate person to have access to a handgun in the first place. To read that there are "tens of thousands" of such people is truly terrifying. NEIL BABBAGE Chelmsford, Essex

Post letters to Levers to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. Fac: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: leuers@independent.co.uk).
E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity: The end of

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for it any more. I hope he is wrong.



To save the world, start here

of endangered wildlife. was safe. But India's efforts to save the great cat from poaching and habitat destruction are failing. The tiger is heading for extinction in the wild. When we think of the rapid,

man-made decline io the world's wealth of plant and animal species we think of developing countries. We ought to focus more of our worries on our own backyard where

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Our influence in India. Kenya, Brazil and the like is limited. We can condemn and cajole hut treasuring the animals and sur-

were to become eco-tourists. Meanwhile, here in Britain we have done more harm to our changed the land. A rich vari-

Our priority must be to get conservation working properly here, and the knowledge to do so. We ought to be setting an example, because for decades Britain has been what most of the developing world is becoming - a densely populated, intensely urbanised land where the bulk of the countryside is used for intensive food production. That is what most of the world will be

like in the next millennium. Our ancestors waged war on wildlife is equally precious and the wild, felling the forests threatened, but where there is which once covered most of the minating the predators which hunted their gamehirds and farm animals. We lost the wolf, the wild boar and the beaver. viving wildernesses of far-off But, like a triumphant guerrilla lands is insufficient incentive to army, wildlife came back with save them, even if millions of us a combination of flexibility and opportunism, taking advantage of the way in which people

hay meadows, chalk downland and coppice woodland. Then, halfway through this

century, nature went into rapid retreat as intensive farming driven first by government and then by European Union sub-sidies - took off. Ancient pastures were ploughed up and doused with pesticides and fertiliser. Countryside was gobbled up by suhurbs and new roads. Survey after survey showed plant and animal species in decline and some becoming extinct at the hand of man.

sure and a dawning compre-hension that subsidising farmers to grow too much food and ruin the countryside in the process is insane. We can now

help nature make a comehack. Should we bother? Conservationists argue that the world's immense variety of plants and animals - about 13.6 million own depleted, ahused country- ety of insects, hirds and flowers species - include as yet undis-

side and wildlife in the past 40 flourished in man-made habi-years than in the 400 before that, tats such as heathland, marshy the way for important new drugs or crop varieties. They say natural habitats like rainforests provide "ecosystem ser-- they regulate the regional climate, keep the lifegiving rain falling yet prevent it ausing soil erosion.

Such reasons for conserving nature may apply in the tropics, hut they won't wash in Britain. We got rid of the great bulk of our forests, our most extensive natural habitat, more than 1,000 years ago without any catastrophic results for climate, tinct at the hand of man. agriculture or economic growth. It is unlikely that some owed, thanks to public presentance of the public presentance of t these islands will one day provide a great medical or agri-

cultural breakthrough. You could argue that our native wild species have some intrinsic right to exist but you'd he entering a philosophical minefield. Much better to fall hack on the unarguable, prac-tical point that wildlife is popular. There is a huge and growing public appetite for conservation. One example: the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds hopes to recruit its

millionth member next year. Technology and urbanisation have forced us away from the land. We love nature in the abstract but are pretty ignorant about it. A recent survey found that a third of 1,000 primary school children thought badgers were not native to Britain. How should we protect and encourage nature? The purist. deep green view, is that we ought to somehow withdraw and let nature get on with recre-

bereft of man. This seems hope-lessly inappropriate for Britain. Two per cent of the nation's area is now owned by nature conservation bodies and devoted primarily to wildlife conservation. The rest is for humans - for our buildings and roads, for growing crops and timber, raising livestock, game birds and deer for shooting.

hedgerows, in suburban gar-dens and on derelict urban land.

There is going to be more and more heated debate about what nature conservation is for, how it should be done, how money should be allocated. An uninformed, urban public leans to the deep green view that nature should just be left alone, unharmed and undisturbed, to get along with being wild.

ut the conservation professionals working for the government and wildlife charities have a more informed, quite different view. They see nature's recovery as having to be carefully managed by man. Habitats have to be manipulated to provide the desired balance of plants and animals, otherwise you just get

a mess of brambles and bracken. One director of English Nature, the government's wildlife conservation arm, puts it thus: "It is not just a case of fencing off an

and coarsest species would oblit-erate everything else." agriculture to be made condi-tional on farmers protecting or

On a small proportion of this manscape landowners regard nature conservation as an important secondary consideration. But on the remainder, wild species have to fit in as best they can, along road verges,

area and letting nature take its

Conservationists argue that Britain's flora and fauna is

largely the result of man's tra-ditional uses of the land and the semi-natural habitats they cre-ated. But those traditions, such as cutting reeds, grazing heathlands and coppicing woodlands, have largely died out so they need to be revived for the sake of wildlife - using labour-saving. machinery to save money. It is a sort of scientific gar-

dening on a grand scale and it is already leading to strange conflicts. Gangs of conservation volunteers cheerfully chainsaw and burn birch trees on lowland heaths. Why? Because the invading birch is slowly turning the heath back into the forest it was thousands of years ago, before people cleared it for hunting and grazing. The con-servationists want to preserve the heaths as habitat for the rare sand lizard, natterjack toad and Dartford warhler - species which would vanish if it became forest again. But they find themselves accosted by outraged walkers and nearby residents demanding to know why they

are felling innocent trees. Conservationists protect endangered, nesting seabirds from foxes by picking off the predators with high-powered rifles. Grey squirrels are routinely poisoned because they are out-competing the red squirrel and chewing saplings to death. Conservationists do not boast about these awkward interventions. The conservationists' holy grail is for the entire £3bn a year of taxpayers'

encouraging wildlife and tradit the moment only

£100m a year of these subsidies, just 3 per cent, is linked to looking after nature. If this sweeping reform took place the conservationists would then be heavily involved in advising farmers and in keeping check on whether all that subsidy was succeeding in making species flourish. They would also have succeeded in aligning their interests with those of the country landowners of Britain, ooe of the most subsidised and influential groups in Britain. Both groups would have a big interest in the subsidies continuing indefinitely.

But as they make progress towards that goal they will face a rising hacklash from townies questioning whether nature conservation is a proper use of large sums of taxpayers' money.

That is one forthcoming conflict. Another split is emerging between professional conservationists and ecologists who work in cities and those who work deep in the country. The urbanites celebrate the way nature takes over derelict factory sites and abandoned railway lines with a riot of vegetation. They also welcome the fact that these plant species are often "exotics" from overseas. brought in accidentally. But rural conservationists often fear and loathe these aliens. They detest the way in which species like the sycamore, rhododen-

of phones. And the odd

thing is that we didn't

fantasise about phone

about was being able to see

the person we were talking

phones would be combined

with TV sets and we could

conversation. And, lo and

were not combined with TV

still can't see the person we

are talking to, which is ironic

because with mobile phones

ever to see the person at the

other end to make sure he is

actually where he says he is.

it is more important than

have a telly-phone

to. It was only a matter of

time, we thought, hefore

ing their way across Britain. There is no doubt that some exotics do harm native species. Yet in a city-dwelling, globally trading Britain the urban ecologists' tolerant outlook has much to commend it.

Even if it never reaches its £3hn-a-year holy grail, the nature conservation cause is set to gain more influence and money. But there are four goals its adherents should keep in mind if they want to keep the public on their side. First, go with the flow of

nature and favour low-cost, lowintervention methods. Second, reach out to educate and enthuse young people. Third, hring nature to town. For every tract of semi-wilderness cooservationists buy in Britain's uplands there should be half a dozen small reserves created or protected in urban areas which people can easily visit. And four, aim to create an authentic British wilderness within the next half century, a huge native, broadleaf forest stretching for dozens of miles. Bring back a sizeable chunk of the wildwood which covered most of post Ice-Age Britain 6,000 years ago. when man recolonised these islands. It should be a forest large enough to support sustainable populations of higherhivores like deer and wild boar.

We in Britain may not be able to save the tiger in Asia, but we could and should return the wolf to these shores.

An Independent/World Wide Fund for Nature Book, Going, Going. Gone by Nicholas Schoon is published by Bookdron and grey squirrel are harg- man this week, price £6.50.

Stay in touch with no running wests. ating a primeval wilderness course. That way, the toughest I thought I heard a muffled ringing ... on trains saying: "Hello, Jim: I'm on the train all right, but days when we didn't have mobile phones, hut were has just broken the previous record by several years. pinned to one spot, we used I don't think I'll he there in to fantasise about the future

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Miles

Kington

really do not have time to write a piece today, as I am sitting by my phone waiting for it to ring with an offer of the editorship of Punch, in the wake of the departure of Peter McKay.

I think in all modesty that I could do the job for at least as long as Peter McKay did it, perhaps even a couple of issues longer, and if I couldn't I could instead claim the record for being the most short-lived editor in Punch history, a record currently

You will notice, by the way, that I said just now that I am

"sitting by my phone waiting for it to ring". I said that because it is a nice old cliché, and I used it unthinkingly. In fact, it is notrue. People do not sit by their phones any more waiting for them to ring. They put their phones in their pocket and take them with them, waiting for them

In the old days, when you telephoned someone, you had a mental image of where they were. You could visualise the man at the other end of the phone because you knew where his phone was. You knew he would be at his desk, or in his kitchen, or in his Georgian drawing-room under the lovely leatherbound first editions of

Victorian pornography. But now, when people have mobile phones, the person at the other end has no idea where the mobile phoner is unless he tells him. That's why you hear people

time for the start of the meeting as the service is running 25 minutes late, so could you make sure they discuss the new agenda on repackaging"
This also explains why I

have oot been on a train for the last day or two. If and when the man does ring up offering me the joh of editor of Punch - which could take time as he obviously has to ring other people first, like, well, like Richard Ingrams, who has always wanted to be ex-editor of Punch - then I don't really want to have to discuss it on a train with lots of people listening as I say things into my mobile phone like, "Of course, I'll need whatever McKay was getting plus a few grand more" or, "I would really rather prefer not to come to an office but to edit Punch from home, so could you arrange for McKay's mini-bar and cocktail cahinet to be

brought round pronto? Oh,

.Of course, back in the

taken it all with him, has he?"

In my case, when I say I am sitting by my phone waiting for a call to the Punch editorship, that is only half-true. I am sitting by my phone waiting for anyone to ring. Because when someone rings, I will then be able to locate the position of my

phone. Somewhere in the mass of papers on my desk, in the piles of unanswered correspondence, in the stacks of interesting but old newspapers, under the old invoices, receipts, VAT mobility. What we fantasised forms, empty Jiffy bags which could probably be reused and unread copies of Punch, there lies a phone. I do not know where it is. It is somewhere in there. I wish to make a phone call, but I cannot until I find it. And I cannot find it until someone behold, nothing of the sort happened at all, and phones rings me, and I can detect, from the ringing noise, where it is, sets but with radio sets so we

If indeed it is a call from a man offering me the Punch editorship, I shall accept gratefully, and say that I will immediately take Princh hack to the gentle days of the 1950s when you could write mild rambling pieces about your own domestie difficulties, such as the troubles caused by

telephones. He will say it is too late for that kind of thing now and readers wouldn't stand



The safer things get, the more we want to risk

Think about risk. This week, on the day of the Channel Tunnel fire, there was also the first substantial snowfall of the winter. No one, mercifully, died in the fire, but at least two people died nn the roads as a direct result of the weather. Yet a fair number of people will be discouraged from using the tun-nel, while hardly anyone will stop using the roads.

We have the strangest atti-tudes in risk. We live in a society which seeks to reduce risk. yet individually we are pre-pared to take them, maybe even seek them out. Thus we worry about nuclear power and genetic engineering but are per-fectly content to drive cars, ride

bicycles, or smoke cigarettes.

In a New Scientist study, nuclear power ranked right at the top of people's perceived risks, far above terrorism, Aids

and mugging.
Strange? Well perhaps not so strange. There may be a great gulf between the actual dangers of something terrible happening and our perceived fear of it, but there is a certain rationale to our attitudes. For example, we worry much less about the risks we feel we can control, like accidents in the

The older we get the more worried we become about risks, because teenagers are notorious for believing they are indestructible. And we discount risks into the future in the sense that we worry far more about things that might go wrong now than those that might go wrong 20 or 30 years hence; if we did not discount risk in this way hardly anyone would smoke another cigarette.

The fact that we are bad at assessing risk has been widely noted. Last year John Adams's controversial book Risk argued that people were prepared to accept a certain level of risk in their lives and when legislation-reduced that risk, they found other ways of increasing it. His most cited example was the introduction of seatbelts in cars, which he argued had little or no effect on the road catering for people's desire to take risks, death toll, which was falling anyway. They may r without getting out of control and damaging bave saved the fives of some people inside the cars, but because they encouraged people to drive faster, more people outside the cars

Another example was the Davy safety lamp in mines in the last century. This operated at a temperature below the ignition point of methane, and because it cut the risk of explosions was credited with saving the lives of thousands of coal miners. Yet it seems because its invention encouraged mining in more dangerous seams, the number of explosions and deaths actually rose in the years after its adop-

The fact that most people are bad at assessing risk leads inevitably to inappropriate logislation. Politicians naturally and properly have to represent their voters' views, even if



Hamish McRae

You wear a

seatbelt, but

you smoke.

Taking

chances, it

seems, is

only human

this leads to odd outcomes. In the United States, concern about passive smoking has become so intense that in a friend's office in Washington they are not allowed to smoke ontside the building on the pavement—they have to move at least 30 feet away from the front office door. In any case, badly framed safety legislation can be a very

inefficient way of improving safety: it encourages service providers to design to fit the law, rather than to make whatever they are doing really safer

means that my chances of survival as an infant were auto-matically better than a boy's,

that I was less likely to have

been excluded from school or to

be memployed for over a year,

it means that my capacity for social and verbal skills was

higher than a boy's; it means

that I am less likely to kill

myself or someone else or

induige in crime. All in all, being female these days

more flexible, more resilient

and deverer than one's male

counterparts but obviously I

don't want to get cocky about

No, let's keep it a secret and

instead fret about a few girls who want to be boxers and a few

battered husbands. Let's worry

that women are becoming too

much like men rather than face

the reality that men are too

much like men, that becoming a man is in itself a problem, that

the dead-end of traditional masculinity is imploding and some-

one has to clean up the mess.

by Estelle Morris MP, is aimed

at tackling the problems of

boys' underachievement. Every

week new statistics appear in

which girls are outperforming

boys in yet another area. First

it was thought they did well only

in single-sex schools and then

only in certain subjects at cer-

tain levels. Now it appears they

are doing better at every level

The "Gazza factor" as one

teacher put it, is prevalent

among young men. Being seen

to work is not cool or laddish

enough. Morris's proposals are

uncontroversial, suggesting

ways of mentoring monitor-ing, and disciplining boys. They are strategies to cope with some

Other female MPs have

raised these issues in the House,

but where, one wonders, are

most conversations about gen-

We are, as the psycho-bab-blers would say, in denial. We

are in denial about the social

revolution we are living through

der are had between women?

underachievement.

Another job for the girls. A Labour Party consultation doc-ument, Closing the Gender Gap.

es one's chances of being

The fact that a lot of safety legislation is misguided, because of a combination of misinformed popular pressure and incorrect assessment of risk, has already received a lot of attention. But there is still an enormous groundswell of pres-sure to reduce risk and I guess that for another generation at least western societies will continue to regulate in order to try to reduce this risk. Some of that regulation will be genuinely helpful, but a lot won't.

Indeed the more we try to "manage" risk, the more we may increase it. This is one of the points made in a new book on the subject, out this week, by

bome or when skiing, than
those we cannot, like the damage to the
ozone layer – ur being stuck in a fire under the
Channel

the American economics revea

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Bernstein, Against the Gods: the remarkable
story of risk. Bernstein argues that schemes
designed to cut the risk of a stockmarket fall in 1987 actually comributed to the scale of the crash in October that year. That is one problem, because when people find that risk cannot be eliminated, they will

be deeply resentful. But I think there is a bigger problem which worries me even more. How will society cater for people who want more risk, not less? Silly question? Absolutely not. Some peo-

ple do want more risk. Why do Britons, unlike Germans, Scandinavians or Japanese, skip Germans, Scandinavians or Japanese, skip across the road when the pedestrian lights are red? Why has about one-third of the teenage population of the UK taken ecstasy? Why do people smoke?

One of the great challenges I think that developed countries face is to find ways of

the rest of society. You could say that eacour-aging activities which seem dangerous but actually are fairly safe, like hang-gliding or parachuting, will provide an outlet for this desire. But while that is fine for the organised and rel-atively well-off, it does not meet the desires of the less organised. Crime is an obvious outlet: for very young offenders there is some evidence that the main attraction is not the money but

To say that is absolutely not to argue for lazer safety standards on the Channel Tunnel. That would be absurd. But it is to say that each new bit of restrictive legislation ought to be tested against this criterion: does it take the fun out of life, particularly for young people? And if the answer is yes, then we should think hard before pressing ahead.

Why I feel sorry for the boys

by Suzanne Moore



The dead-end of traditional masculinity is imploding and someone has to clean up the mess. Another job for the girls

the relationship between men aware of them; but public life is and women fascinates us all, but dominated, from the right and we don't get down to the nitty-gritty. We would rather talk narrative of return. We will about sex than gender because return to a time when men sex is :.. well, sexy. We would were men and women were rather talk vaguely of an underclass than look at a new underclass of young men that is con-stituting itself before our eyes.

"Boys must be made aware of the implications for them of a men who are man enough in this . company of slimy over-achievers to stand up and admit to their sex's failures? Why is it that changing labour market and changing family patterns. They need to be better equipped to respond constructively to the challenges they face, and to maintain a greater commitment to learning as a life-long process - and education is the key", Morris writes.

not we will return to a time of tough discipline and suitable role models; we will return to a time of happy nuclear families. This is pure fantasy and thank God for that.

None of this takes account of the huge economic and cultural shifts that are underpinning the gender gap. We expect more of girls these days and therefore they expect more of themselves. Some of this has to do with feminism but much of it hasn't. A particular set of politics has not and we are in denial about the changes it necessitates. We talk aware of these things, they need around these issues all the time, to see that grown men are combined with profound ideo-

logical shifts, is responsible. Ideology. I realise, is no longer a fashionable word. The false consciousness beloved of Marxists is now seen as patronising and simplistic twaddle, yet the idea that once implicit ideologies are made explicit they no longer maintain such a strong hold on us is still persuasive.

Feminism in both its radical and populist forms gave women permission to talk about what it means to be a woman, the ideology of femininity itself - its pleasures as well as its con-straints. To understand this means to understand how it is possible to change, to become different kinds of women: and over the last 50 years we have had to change because our lives have changed enormnusly. The denial about boys' cur-

rent difficulties stems then from the inability or refusal of men to make visible the ideology of masculinity. Boys after all are not entirely different creatures from men. Cenain kinds of behaviour are on a continuum - ya-booing in the Commons disrupting classrooms. How can we expect our boys to under-stand the world they are living in when many powerful men want to pretend that nothing has fundamentally changed and that problems are being caused by a lew working-class vobbos? am not asking for some Robert Bly navel-gazing; simply asking that men in public life acknowledge that they are part of the problem rather than the solution. I could be cynical and say that losing power is always dif-ficult and that men must suffer for women's gains, but I don't believe this. I'm not a female supremacist and if we carry on producing hordes of moronic boys we will all suffer.

As always, culture pre-empt political discussion. The conlessional tone of much recent literature - from Nick Hornby to David Baddiel - does not take masculinity as a given but as something more malleable. These are elever lads whose writing is underpinned by an understanding of what feminism is about.

The commercial rise of the lad is an attempt to find an easy and authentic version of manhood at a time when there is clearly no such thing. It provides the easy markers of a taste for beer, tils and football" as the defining characteristics of late-20th-century man.

Many would-be lads are simply clueless. The popularity of what I call Lad Drag is understandable but it is a form a disguise, a suffocating identity that can be tried on, a wolf's clothing for these poor lost sheep. It is a dream of escape produced by those who have escaped, consumed by those who never will.

Laddism, however, is just as much a narrative of return as Back to Basics, except with more promise of a good time. Men need desperately to find a narrative of progress that is equally full of fun. in private many men speak of this; in public, however, men are strangely silent on this issue.

If those men in power cannot address a changing world, how can we expect powerless boys to be anything but disaffected. Meanwhile it is left to women to worry ahout this; but you can't expect us to do it for ever because, as you know, ruling the world is a time-consuming

Islands of uncertainty

clevision screens have been filled nightly with pictures of tragic events in Rwanda and Zaire, and the revelation this week that arms were supplied by a British company to those who committed genocide has filled many people with mural outrage. The company alleged to have supplied the arms is Mil-Tec, an Isleof-Man-registered company. Mil-Tec was administered by BDO Binder in the Isle of Man and all its shareholders and directors are nominees, hiding the true ownership and management of the company. Although Mil-liec appears to have done nothing illegal, the affair will have reinforced the public's unease about the lack of supervision of offshore companies.

Whenever something nasty hits the theadlines from any of the three islands close to the UK – Jersey, Guerusey and the Isle of Man - island politicians respond with platitudes about how well regulated lheir islands are, and how much more nasty business goes on in the UK.
In fact, the islands are very well regul-

ated in all areas of financial services other than offshore companies. Their supervisory bacties make every effort to ensure that regulation keeps up with international standards and that investors are protected, but every time a scandal breaks it wipes out a lot of the international goodwill created by the supervisors.

The three islands are self-governing UK Crown dependencies. As such they are part of Great Britain, but not of the UK, and their parliaments make all their internal laws. However, the UK is responsible for the islands' defence, international relations and ultimate good government. In this capacity it imposes laws relating to those areas, such as compliance with UN resolutions. Even many islanders do not realise that constitutionally the UK has the right to Impose any law on the islands. Fearful of losing their hard-won degree of autonomy, the island governments tend to pre-empt this by managing to pass any required laws themselves. The most recent example of this was the logalisation of

UK governments do not seem concerned enough about the lack of regulation of those forming and administering offshore companies to do anything about it.

The role of an Isle of Man company in supplying arms to Rwanda and Zaire has focused

attention on offshore companies. Great Britain's islands must make reforms.

argues Sue Stuart

Maybe it is just too handy to have these islands as a filter through which people in the UK can indulge in dubious activities. Does Westminster not know how much Northern Ireland's paramilitary organisations use offshore companies to channel money through?

The islands have all implemented strong anti-money-laundering laws and investig-ators from other jurisdictions get full cooperation with inquiries from the local police and supervisory bodies. But offshore politicians do not seem to be aware of the enormous amount of work their fraud squads have to handle - and most investigations begin with an offshore company. In all three islands, the use of nominee shareholders and directors is common practice. However, in Jersey and Guernsey the name of the true beneficial owner has to be disclosed to the authorities. And in Guernsey companies have to be formed by a lawyer. These simple requirements certainly seem to cut down on the number of

crooks using the Channel Islands.
But no disclosure is required in the Isle of Man, and anyone can form a company, so it is always open day for criminals from all around the world. Manx-based company agents are also allowed to advertise, which leads to a client being able to acquire a company over the telephone with the min-imum checks done on his bona fides. That company will then be administered by the Manx-based agent. In spite of all this, Manx politicians seem surprised when something goes pear-shaped.

Jersey seems to be well established as a place used by Italian fraudsters, in particular. Italian investigations involving Jersey companies have ranged from the Banco Ambrosiano affair to the current trials of Silvio Berlusconi. Guernsey companies are not much used

by crooks now, but the island contains company formation agents who set up com-panies in other jurisdictions. The balliwick of Guernsey also contains Alderney and Sark Sark has no company register but it has the "Sark lark", in which company-formation agents in other offshore islands use a number of Sark residents as directors of non-resident companies registered elsewhere. By using Sark directors, Sark becomes the place of residence of the company. As a non-resident company elsewhere, it will pay an annual fee, no income tax, to the authorities where it is registered (in the Isle of Man this is £600), and no tax m Sark, because there is no register. One of the main benefits of "Sarking" a company is that it allows the utmost secrecy no one anywhere is scrutinising the company or its business. The normal annual fee for a Sark director is £100 per directorship per company, and that is how some Sark residents make their living. They are directors of hundreds of companies about which they know nothing.

All the good work that regulators and police do in these islands is quickly for-gotten whenever there is a scandal - and nearly every offshore scandal involves the use of companies. Over the past three years the governments of all three islands have publicly said that they plan to legislate for regulation of this sector. It has not hap-pened yet. Every time they put forward a proposal it is shot down by the company rmation agents.

Maybe the island governments should not listen so much to obviously self-interested agents. If the offshore islands really care about their image, they will have to bring the abuse of offshore companies

Crazy about catz and dogz

Ginger is exactly what she wanted: a Siamese kitten whn loves to play, and purts like mad when petted. She feeds him daily and has even acquired a mouse for him to chase around her home in Tonbridge,

The odd thing about Ginger is not his colnuring (nnt many ginger-coloured Siamese about) or the fact that he takes catnaps on command and doesn't need a litter box. What makes Ginger special is that he exists only on a

CD-Rom Computer Catz and Dogz originally came from California - providing the best way yet to avoid strict rabies regulations - and the nation loves them. It has just been crazy," says James Morris, a manager of the software firm Mindscape.

This lends a whole new meaning to playing "cat and mouse" - players can shout "Cursor!" instead of "Curses!" - but Mr Morris says he's more a dogz type of guy and has a virtual cocker-spaniel named Jack, "Both catz and dogz appeal to people who love animals but cannot go to work with them," he says, "and also to kids who aren't allowed to have a real pet."

This is Caroline, and now she and her friends have a total of 13 kittenz. Like the real thing. they grow up, hate water, love catrip and get fleas. And, like the real thing, if you are mean to them, they are mean back. Not all catz are as well-fed as

t the age of 11 Caroline
Simpson has finally been allowed to have a pet.

Ginger. "Look, he's starving," exclaims Caroline as Felix, a scraggly black kitten, comes

out in play.
What's next? "We don't know what could be coming up next year. We're looking in to the possibilities of Birdz and Blokez nr Girlz and Boyz," says Mr Mnrris, But is this really a good idea? Virtual boyfriends will be

unable to erect shelving or pro-vide the intellectual refreshment of arguing who is to be designated driver. And boys already think girls are unreal: this would only encourage them. The possibili-

ties are enormous. For example, this really could be the Tory party's chance to go nuclear about the family. Every single parent could have a spouze and every child would have two parentz. Want a big sister or brother? No problem Feeling hroody? Babiez will cure that soon enough.

Evidently, Mindscape's newest project is something to do with aliens. Get real! What those of us under pressure to provide rodents as Christmas presents want is something called hamsterz. They will need a wheel, a personality, a burrow, lots of food. And when the child loses interest, us grownups don't have 10 feel guilty that we secretly want the rodent to die. Nor will we have to provide cardboard boxes for the inevitable back garden funeral. Instead, one switch of the computer and petz are no longer

Ann Treneman



my mummy" Imagine the terror and panic for a child separated from loved ones in a vast crowd of people. This is the reality

facing thousands of children in Rwanda today as their families make the long trek home. Save the Children has already provided emergency food and medical supplies to help save lives and our staff are working round-the-clock to protect and

reunite children with their families. But we need your help to continue this vital work. Please make a donation now. Post the coupon below

or call us on 0171-703 5400 (24 hour hotline)

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Save the Children Fund, FREEPOST, London SE5	8BI

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Michael Harrison

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Robin Cook, the shadow Foreign Secretary, yesterday went rift in the Labour leadership tors. over economic and monetary union by backing Britain's cntry into a single currency.

Speaking to business leaders in London, Mr Cook gave his most upbeat assessment of the benefits of monetary union and forecast there was a 75 per cent chance that the single currency would proceed.

Mr Cook, hitherto regarded as lukewarm towards EMU told the Confederation of British Industry's monthly council meeting: "If a single currency proceeds I personally very much doubt whether it is possible in the medium term for Britain to stay uut. In the long term, and if it proceeds and succeeds, it will not be an option for Britain to remain

He said a question mark re-mained over whether a single currency would start on time in 1999 hut he highlighted the attractions that Labour saw in

Mr Cook's comments align him more closely with the shadow Chancellor, Gordon Brown, the sbadow cabinet's most entbusiastic advocate of EMU, and will help Labour present a united front on the

Britain remained outside a single currency it would make sterling more vulnerable to a long way towards bealing the attack by currency specula-

He said it would be perverse to stay out on the grounds of defending Britain's sovereignty if entry was in the country's economic interests. On the other band it would be perverse to sign up simply as a symbolic act of Britain's sup-

port for Europe.

Mr Cook claimed that whilst the debate within the Conservative Party over EMU was a political one, Labour would take a "hard-headed" decision on whether or not to support a single currency based on the economic arguments.

Europe, he said was the centre of gravity of economic power and the reason that Britain had attracted more inward investment than any other country in the European The Government, be added,

was pursing a mirage if it thought that launching a "Jibad" against Brussels would win votes. By appearing to be reluctant members of the Community it was undermining Britain's wider interests. This is not a posture that gives us any leverage within the EU," be said to murmurs of "hear, hear".

He also called on business to

He 10ld CBI leaders that if join Labour in belping devel-ritain remained outside a op the same kind of consensus approach to Europe that existed on the Continent. "One reason we don't do as well is that we are too husy arguing among ourselves to put forward a united policy."

Mr Cook denied that Labour was "playing chicken" by refusing to say ahead of the election whether or not it

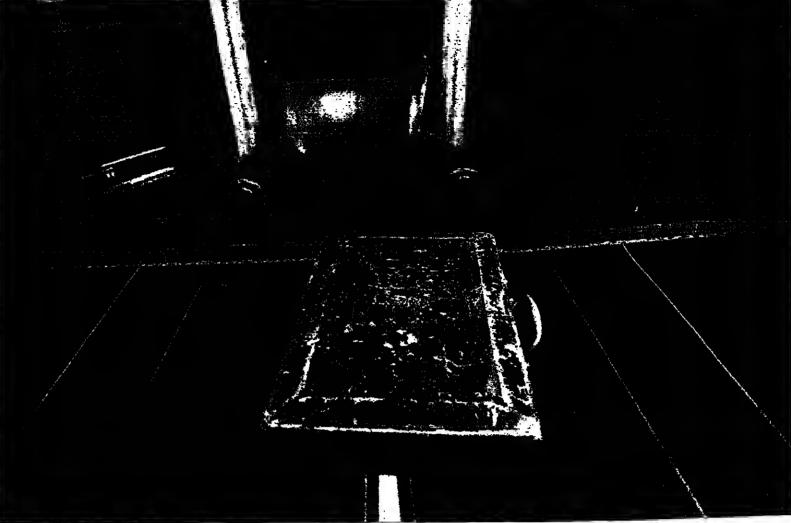
> position in promising a referendum on the subject was consistent with that of the other two main parties. Mr Cook promised meanwhile that trade would be given top priority in a future Labour government's foreign policy. Labour, be said, would consider appointing business-

men as ambassadors in se-

would take Britain into a single currency. He said Labour's

key export markets for Britain. He also pledged to increase the number of commercial secondments into the Foreign Office and offer more support for small and medium-sized companies in export markets. One option, he said, would be to set up dedicated business centres in overseas markets such as Germany had done in

Sir Colin Marshall, president of the CBL said he was very encouraged to hear that Labour would put trade at the top of



lected countries which were

Will Kenneth Clarks, the Chancel-lor, be going for broke in next. Tuesday's Budget with a massive pre-election givenway? Or will he be steering the path of prudence with a fiscally neutral Budget. Either way, what the Chancellor an nounces next week could seal the Government's fate in the election.

Read about the outcome in 20. pages of unparalleled Budget news, analysis and comment in next Wednesday's Independent...

tants, will be on hand to to crunch the numbers and bring you up to the minute analysis of how the Budget affects each catagory of income group and family unit.

All this together with the Independent's established team of top illawer commentators – Andrew m, Donald MacIntyre, Polly More, Gavyn Davies of Gold-Sachs, Suzanne Moore, Hish McRae, David Aaronovitch

Safeway set to create 5,200 jobs

Nigel Cope

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Safeway is to create 5,200 jobs as part of an expansion programme that will see it open 15 superstores in the next 12 months and a further 15 the year

Though more than half the jobs will be part time, they help make up for 5,000 job cuts made last year under the Safeway 2000) restructuring programme. This included the closure of some smaller, older hranches and a shake-up of the management structure in stores. Safeway

also added 3,250 jobs last year. Safeway said additional jobs would be created through its joint venture with BP to open 100 convenience stores on petrol farecourts over the next three years. These sites will be rolled out from next April.

Several hundred more jobs will be added under Safeway's new Queuebusters scheme, Several hundred staff will be trained to be "multi-skilled" to be able to operate a check-out, work behind the delicatessen counter, or in whichever part of the store is busy. They will be easy in spot in hright vellow aprons featuring a large hlue "Q".

Colin Smith, Safeway's chief executive, annuunced the job plans yesterday alongside a 7 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £228m in the six months to 12 October. He said Safeway's policy of targeting family shoppers helped by its high-profile "Harry and Mully" television advertising had proved a success.
"We are operating in a highly

competitive sector but we have

la diçes

FTSE All-Share 1945,10

successfully focused on winning over hig family shoppers We are picking up speed."

Safeway is exploring entering the financial services market through a joint venture. However, it has ruled out following Sainsbury's with the launch of a fully-fledged bank.

The group is extending its "Shup and Go" scheme which lets holders of Safeway's loyalty card to scan their own shopping using band-held "guns". A further 50 stores will be included taking the total to 150. Safeway is also introducing au-

tomated pay-out terminals to en-able customers to scan their own shopping and pay for it using debit or credit cards without encountering a single member of staff. A test is under way in the store in Reigate, Surrey.

More emphasis will be placed on own-brand products and a control of the store added to 80

toy range is being added to 80

Safeway's like-for-like sales rose by 5.1 per cent during the period, slightly below the industry average. Net margins have remained steady in spite of the petrol price war which is now easing. "Margins are almost back to where they were last year." Mr Smith said.

Safeway is on target to beat its aim of increasing sales per square foot to £15 by 1998. The current level is £14.63 compared with £12.86 in 1995.

Safeway's shares fell 1.5p to 369.5p on the results with some analysts describing them as "dull". Safeway's group sales were 9 per cent higher at £3.7bn in the six months.

STOCK MARKETS

Class Bay's charge Charge(%)

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<u>-67,60</u>

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2795.80 2253.36 1.68†

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British Energy seals Southern alliance

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent**

British Energy, the recently privatised nuclear power operalliance to supply power to Southern Electric, the first such leal hetween a regional electricity company and generator.

The 15-year agreement, ex-pected to be one of several such alliances by British Energy, gives the group a head start over the two other big power gen-erators in England and Wales, PowerGen and National Power, as the industry scramhles to sign up contracts before the market is opened to full competition in 1998.

National Power had revealed earlier this week that it was negotiating with three RECs to create a broad supply alliance which could also include one of the UK's leading supermarket

Banking Correspondent

Imro, the investment manage-

ment regulator, was angered

and seriously concerned last

extends a one-year partnership under which Southern huys



Taking insurance: Dr Robert Hawley said British Energy wanted insulation from volatile electricity prices

chains. The British Energy deal The new contract in likely to significantly increase the scale of Hawley, the chief executive, the power purchases, though about 15 per cent of the pow-er generated by the nuclear close the predicted figure, or the ator, has secured a long-term group in England and Wales. price at which the electricity

said the aim was to insulate British Energy from the volatility of prices in the electricity pool, the system which sets market prices. Because nuclear power stations have to generate power continuously they act as so-called "price takers" in the pool mechanism, while prices are mostly set by National Power and Powergen. He also disclosed that nego-

would be supplied. Dr Robert

tiations were taking place with other RECs. "We don't want to get into the situation where all 100 per cent of our ootput is contracted in this way, but the deal isn't exclusive to Sonthern Electric. We are talking to other regional electricity companies," Dr Hawley said.

However Dr Hawley dismissed the idea of taking equity stakes in RECs or buying one of the few remaining indepen-

Mr Kane was shown the door

along with three other senior ex-

ecutives, including Keith Percy,

managing director of the entire MGAM business, and a com-

The Morgan Grenfell

pliance officer.

the former managing director of the unit trust husiness who re-signed because of the affair. unit trust operation was being moved and that the institu-tional business was not affected

by the decision.

in internal controls.

deal power suppliers outright. "We are simple-minded people. I don't want to buy a REC and we've consistently said that." Informal talks were also tak-

ing place with US power utilities aimed at securing contracts to help improve efficiency in nuwer plants in America. British Energy yesterday announced a sharp reduction in post-tax losses in the six months to the end of September to £32m, compared with £169m

during the same period in 1995. This excludes one-off gains and losses associated with the privatisation and an £813m payment the previous year for the development of the Sizewell B power station.

The improvement came from a 12 per cent rise in the amount of electricity generated through better efficiency and a 10 per cent reduction in operating

Imro is still conducting its in-

vestigation into the Morgan

Grenfell fiasco. The regulator

can levy befty fines against the

firm if it uncovers breaches of

its rules, which include lapsed

Mr Young, sacked in Sep-

tember and now under investi-

gation by the Serious Fraud Office, set up a string of shell

companies in Luxembourg and

breached limits on the amount

of unlisted securities a fund can

hold. The discovery of his ac-

tions forced Morgan Grenfell to

suspend trading its three of its

once-top performing funds in

early September almost £1.4bn

Comment, page 23

Spending weighs against tax cuts

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

The case against cutting taxes in next week's Budget was strengthened vesterday by official figures showing that higher spending by consumers and the Government are driving the

economy's growth.

Although investment fell sharply in the latest quarter, the spread of the recovery to manufacturing was confirmed by an upbeat survey from the Confederation of British Industry.

The buoyant news took the pound another two pfennigs higher to DM2.5326 yesterday. Its exchange rate against a range of other currencies rose 0.8 to 92.8, the highest level for four years, and it also reached a four-year high against the US dollar.

The increase in consumer spending during the third quarter of this year was the higgest for three years, at 1.1 per cent. and the annual growth climbed to a post-recession peak of 3.3 per cent. Rising incomes and lower taxes fuelled the increase.

The other main contribution to the economy's third-quarter expansion was a 1 per cent rise in government expenditure, This was the biggest advance since the quarter immediately before the last general election in May 1992. This can hardly be coincidental," said John-O'Sullivan, an economist at NatWest Markets.

With investment spending dropping by 2.2 per cent, negligible stockbuilding and exports less imports roughly fint, the increase in gross domestic product was 0.8 per cent, as ini-

tially estimated.

night by news that Deutsche Bank was moving control of some of Morgan Grenfell's unit level of internal control. ss would continue be handled Clearly, a separation of rein London lated management or compliance functions is not ideal. In

INTEREST RATES

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trust businesses to Frankfurt as result of the Peter Young scandal in London. Tessen von Heydebreck, a member of the Deutsche Bank management board, said in Frankfurt that DWS, its German fund management unit, would take responsibility for the

risk control aspects of Morgan

Grenfell Asset Management's unit trust business. "Ultimate responsibility for MGAM unit trusts will lie with DWS. We will have risk control," Mr van Heydebreck said.

Loney Market Dates

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However, unusually, Imro was not informed of the deci-sion by Morgan Grenfell, which it regulates. Part of this supervision includes analysis of the management structure to consider whether it offers a strong

be acceptable," Phillip Thorpe, chief executive of Imro said day control of the unit trust busi-

port to Frankfurt. The reorganisation, which af-

fects hundreds of bonds, derivatives and foreign

exchange staff, and 150 corporate financiers and

equities personnel, is likely to involve some move-

ment of employees between the two cities.

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A spokesman for Deutsche Morgan Grenfell in London stressed yesterday that day-to-

Imro angry as Deutsche moves control

He said Morgan Grenfell

was continuing to seek a resome circumstance it may not placement for Graham Kane,

spokesman said yesterday that only internal supervision of the Dresdner Bank, which last year bought Kleinwort Benson of the UK for £1bn, yesterday announced a restructuring of its investment banking business, writes Jill Treanor.

The details have not been finalised and it is unclear who will head the corporate finance and equities businesses out of London. The current heads of corporate finance and equities in Lon-It plans to run its corporate finance and equities business from London, and make all its don are Tim Shacklock and Alan Yarrow, while their counterparts in Frankfurt are Michael bonds, derivatives and foreign exchange staff re-Rohleder and Olaf Shuth.

> on the expertise of the two operations. A big player in the foreign exchange, derivatives and bond markets, Dresduer bought Kleinwort for its corporate finance and stockbroking capabilities.

The German bank said the moves were based CURRENCIES

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Index Latest Yr Ago Meet Figs.

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Glaxo pays £354m for Japanese partner

Magnus Grimond

was invested.

Glaxo Wellcome is to pay ¥66bn (£354m) for the out-standing half-share in its Japanese joint venture, Nippon Glazo, in the last big restructuring to follow the £9hn takeover of Wellcome last year.

The deal, which also involves the payment of ¥1.38bn to joint venture partner Shin Nihon Jitsugyo, is being seen as part of a move to reverse the British group's relative underperformance in Japan.

A Glaxo spokesman said taking 100 per cent control of the joint venture "gives us a clear-

er, simpler structure to grow the businese:

It is the last big step in rationalising the separate Glaxo and Wellcome businesses. which previously operated side by side in many of the world's main drug markets following

lası year's merger. Once fully owned, it is ex-pected that Nippon Glaxo will be merged with Nippon Wellcome, the 55 per cent owned. joint venture with Sumitomo Chemical Company which came with Wellcume. Glato. said it had "no immediate plans" to merge the two com-

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OTHER INDICATORS

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Tory rebate would trump Labour windfall tax

The benefits of privatisation are supposed to be reflected in lower prices to consumers. not spirited away by the state.'

Is Kenneth Clarke preparing to cut the ground from under Labour and its windfall tax in next Tuesday's Budget? If he does have a trick up his sleeve, he was keeping it firmly under wraps during yesterday's knock serious about hitting his inflation targets.

about in the Commons. In the absence of any detail about how the tax will be applied and Labour on the spot, forcing it either to scrap who will pay it, Michael Heseltine and John Prescott were largely reduced to trad-

ing press cuttings rather than blows.

Should Mr Clarke be in the mood for some advice, however, then bere is an idea. Why not trump Labour by announcing that the utilities have agreed to start talking about a voluntary levy payable, oot to the Treasury where it would disappear into the entrails of the PSBR, but direct to customers? The utilities might not like it, hut it seems a good sight better than the alternatives. If they are to see their balance sheets ravaged, then why not for a cause which might at least gain them a bit of goodwill among their cas-

Certainly it has political attractions for a Government facing possible electoral defeat and a Chancellor struggling with his desire to be remembered for fiscal rectified. A rebate for customers would be tantamount to an election tax bribe, but a bribe paid for by the utilities, not out of the public sector

Since the financial markets have, sup-posedly, already discounted a £5bn windfall tax in the share values of the utilities, the ing rooms. Moreover, a rebate paid in the form of lower fuel and water bills would flow through into the retail price index and thus reassure the markets that the Chancellor is

But most important of all, it would put Labour on the spot, forcing it either to scrap the rebate or forsake its only firm revenueraising proposal. A Tory rebate would, of course, in shareholders as hard as a Labour windfall tax. But it would avoid the arbitrary and unjust nature of the tax by delivering some of the spoils of monopoly direct to customers. This, after all, was the way the sys-tem was always meant to work; the benefits of privatisation are supposed to be reflected in lower prices to consumers, not spirited away by the state. The politics of it too is mighty attractive since it would force Labour oose between being the party of higher bills or the party of higher taxes.

Fantasy? Maybe, maybe not. But if Mr Hesekine really believes that this tax bombshell is going to explode in Labour's face between now and polling day, he will have to do something to prime the device.

City is in danger of becoming a warehouse

Deutsche Bank's decision to place Morgan Grenfell's unit trusts business under its own direct control in Frankfurt is lar set of circumstances but it also highlights the dangers for the City of the present trend towards foreign ownership. Who and where ownership is based may not seem to matter very much in today's global economy, but clearly it does matter for the City if it begins to lose control of its own destiny.

There are plenty of straws in the wind. Dresdner Bank recently announced that the fund management side of Kleinwort Benson. which it bought last year, would in future be managed out of San Fransisco. There are onw similar moves to consolidate KB's forez, derivatives and bonds business into Dresdner's operations in Frankfurt. All this may make sense from Dresdner's point of view but it hardly bodes well for the City. The logical eod game is that the City becomes just a warehouse operation, with the control and decision-making lying else-where. If you regard the City as little more than an offshore fieldom answerable only to itself, this may not seem terribly important. Given how much the City now contributes to the British economy, however, it would be wrong to think this way. It actually matters quite a lot

At the time of Big Bang 10 years ago, which allowed foreign ownership for the first time, oobody could have guessed quite how much of the secucities industry would end up in overseas hands. When all those fuddy duddy old partnerships finally accepted the inevitable, surrendered to deregulation and damage should not be too great in City deal obviously a justified response to a particu- sold up, oot in their wildest dreams did they Sainsbury with plenty of scope to catch up. once. In time, another attempt seems likely.

anticipate the degree to which they would vanish from the map or become absorbed into foreign-owned concerns.

With SG Warburg's takeover by Swiss Bank, Britain's last hope of developing an independent international investment bank to compete with the best of them disappeared down the plug, leaving just BZW and Nat West Markets as the nnly British contenders (both of them owned by big retail hanks) anywhere near the big league. So far this has not in any way damaged the City, rather the reverse. If history is any guide, however, it will not always be thus. There is a world of a difference between the ruler and the ruled. The City will one day pay the consequences of its surrender.

Safeway may look to Europe once more

David Webster, Sir Alistair Grant's suc-cessor as chairman of Safeway, is fond of referring to his new charge as "an immature company in a mature market. And he is not referring to Saleway's use of the toddlers Harry and Molly in its TV ads. What he means is that Soleway, in his opinion, is a relatively underdeveloped company with lots of opportunity to grow.

He has a poior. Using measures such as sales per square foot. Safeway is a very distant third to the two big boys Tesco and already dipped its toe in European waters

By contrast, many Sainsbury's stures are already too busy for customer comfort.

What Safeway has done is seize upon one or two initiatives which highlight its differences with rivals and pummed them for all they are worth. Hence the self-scanning scheme, the automatic payment terminals and all the noise about creches even though they are only to 10 per ceot of its stores.

The challenge is to maintain the momen-tum. In some ways Safeway has been fortu-nate in that it has benefited from Samsbury's woes. When Sainsbury starts to fight back (and it is showing increasing signs of doing so). Safeway will find the going tougher.

And for all its emphasis on its new super-

stores, Safeway still has a large number of older, smaller high street shops with limited parking. No room for creches or fancy coffee shops in these. Safeway has won plan-dits in the City for its refusal, thus far, to follow the diversification route by plunging into Europe (like Tesco) or the United States (like Sainsbury's). Management is instead oncentrating on growing up in the UK.

But that could change. Mr Webster thinks

that as the Single Market becomes a real-ity, cross-bordet alliances between European supermarket groups are a certainty. The thinking is that such giants will become nec-essary if the supermarkets are to maintain their buying power against powerful manufacturing conglomerates. Safeway has

Labour refuses to spell out windfall tax

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

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Labour last night refused to claborate oo how many of the privatised utilities would be included in its planned windfall tax, or how much cash the party intended to raise, in a Commons dehate on the policy brought by the Conservatives.

However in a typically tough performance John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, that it cannot be classed as a pledged that no consumer utility because the British phone would face bigger bills. He was responding to claims fby Michael Heseltine, the deputy Prime Minister, that consumers, shareholders and workers in the companies would all be ad-

versely affected. During his speech Mr Prescott was asked several times by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether or oot British Telecom would be one of the privatised firms required to pay the tax. However he declined to give further details, beyond saying that the list of companies affected would be ootlined in . Labour's first budget.

He also reiterrated that oo final decisions would be taken until the Shadow Chancellor, Gordoo Brown, had consulted with the industry regulators. Flanked by Mr Brown on one

side and Alistair Darling from the Party's Treasury team on the nther, Mr Prescott made it clear that Labour was as committed as ever to the principle.

He told MPs: "The privatised utilities were sold off cheaply, regulated weakly and were alLabour inteods to raise a levy to put people back to work." His speech kept former state-owned companies such as BT

guessing about Labour's precise definition of a "utility." Mr Prescott would only say that the tax would apply to "privatised utilities which have made windfall profits" and "all will be considered without fear

or favour." that it cannot be classed as a in this country." utility because the British phone He suggested Labour would market has for several years have to use political interference

However he conspicuously failed to use the word "monopoly" in this definition. Earlier, Mr Heseltine had taunted Labour with a letter from Alastair Campbell, Tony Blair's yor 10 million more who held press secretary, which was published in *The Independent* recently. It had suggested that the Mr Heseltine defended the tax would only apply to "priva-tised monopoly utilities." Powergen, the electricity generator which faces competition in the UK electricity market, bad

almost the same as Labour's current proposals.

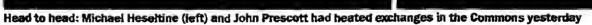
Opening the debate, Mr Heseltine had attempted to expose what the Tories believe is Labour's vulnerability on the issue, describing the proposals as an act of vicious political

He continoed: Behind the windfall tax there is a bill, a real bill...This isn't a levy on utilities. BT has consistently argued it's a tax on everybody who lives

been exposed to full competion in the work of the regulators to compensate for the money takeo away. In addition, share prices in the taxed companies would fall, affecting millions people who held shares direct-

> Mr Heseltine defended the record of privatisation which he insisted had brought huge benefits to customers in lower prices. He also said most of the industries involved were in-





tricity share prices after Professor Stephen Littlechild, the regulator, changed his mind about the level of price cuts he. claimed this meant that it would creasingly becoming exposed to intended to levy on the region-

Treasury spokesman, who agreed with the Conservatives that millions of small investors would be hit.

"It simply isn't honest to say it's a victimless tax. It is naive to believe there are no impacts and no ooe would be affected." Winding op his speech Mr Prescott had argued that there

was no longer any serious debate about whether any serious debate about whether excess profits had been made by the utilities. Referring to the huge share price gains made since pri-vatisation, he explained: "There is a mass of evidence_it was the excess profits that fueled the fat cat salaries. Case after case shows that the taxpayer was short changed."

The privatised utilities were sold off cheaply, regulated weakly and allowed to make excess profits

Labour responded to Conservative jibes by quoting from the 1981 budget speech by the former chancellor, Geoffrey Howe, when the first Thatcher Government announced a oneoff levy oo windfall profits made by the banks. He claimed

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competitioo. "When Labour talk aboot mooopolies they totally fail to understand the revolution in competitive practices which is sweeping the world's

markets," he said.
The claims were labled as "hypocrisy", by Mr Prescott, who cited the occasion last year lowed to make excess profits. the wording on that policy was when £4bn was wiped off elec-

al power companies. Labour also stated that coosumers would oot face price increases as a result of the tax because charges were already capped by the industry watch-

dogs.
The attack on the proposals was later joined by Malcolm Bruce, the Liberal Democrats'

In Brief

 Burger King, a subsidiary of Grand Metropolitan, said yesterday it had closed 20 outlets, affecting 360 jobs. The company, which has over 400 restaurants in the UK, said that where possible it was trying to offer staff alternative employment at other restaurants, but it was unable to give an exact figure on how many

· Heads continued to roll at Ibstock, the building materials group, yesterday after Anthony Hopkins, responsible for its building products division, resigned with immediate effect. Philip Mengel, the group's former US brickmaking head who took over as chief executive last week from lan Maclellan, assumes his responsibilities. A spokesman for Ibstock said the group was discussing the details of Mr Hopkins' departure but gave oo reason for his leaving. After a flurry of acquisitions in the past 12 months, Ibstock has become Britain's biggest brick

 Morgan Cracible confirmed its intention to float the businesses in its aerospace, sensors and instruments division in a new company, Emblem Technology. The businesses, which achieved sales and operating profits for the year to 4 January 1996 of £36.4m and £4.3m respectively, are based in the US and UK. Observers said the deal could raise £40m.

• Argent Group has sold the Mayllower Retail Park, Basildon, to Scottish Widows for £29.5m. This is the first retail park purchased by the fund and reflects their strategy of building a holding in this sector. The park currently produces an income of £1.82m.

 In the US claims for state unemployment henefits rose 17,000 to 344,000 for the week ended 16 November from a revised 327,000 the previous week, the Labor Department said. The consensus forecast had been for jobless claims to rise 2,000 to 330,000. This is the highest level of jobless claims since the week ending 13

• The DTI should have considered the possibility that the proceeds from the sale of the five regional coal businesses would be in excess of its initial valuation, according to a report by a crossparty Select Committee of Public Accounts. The DTI had estimated proceeds would be £490m-£672m. Gross proceeds reached £955m. According to its report, the committee considered "that the department should have envisaged the possibility that some such premium might be offered.

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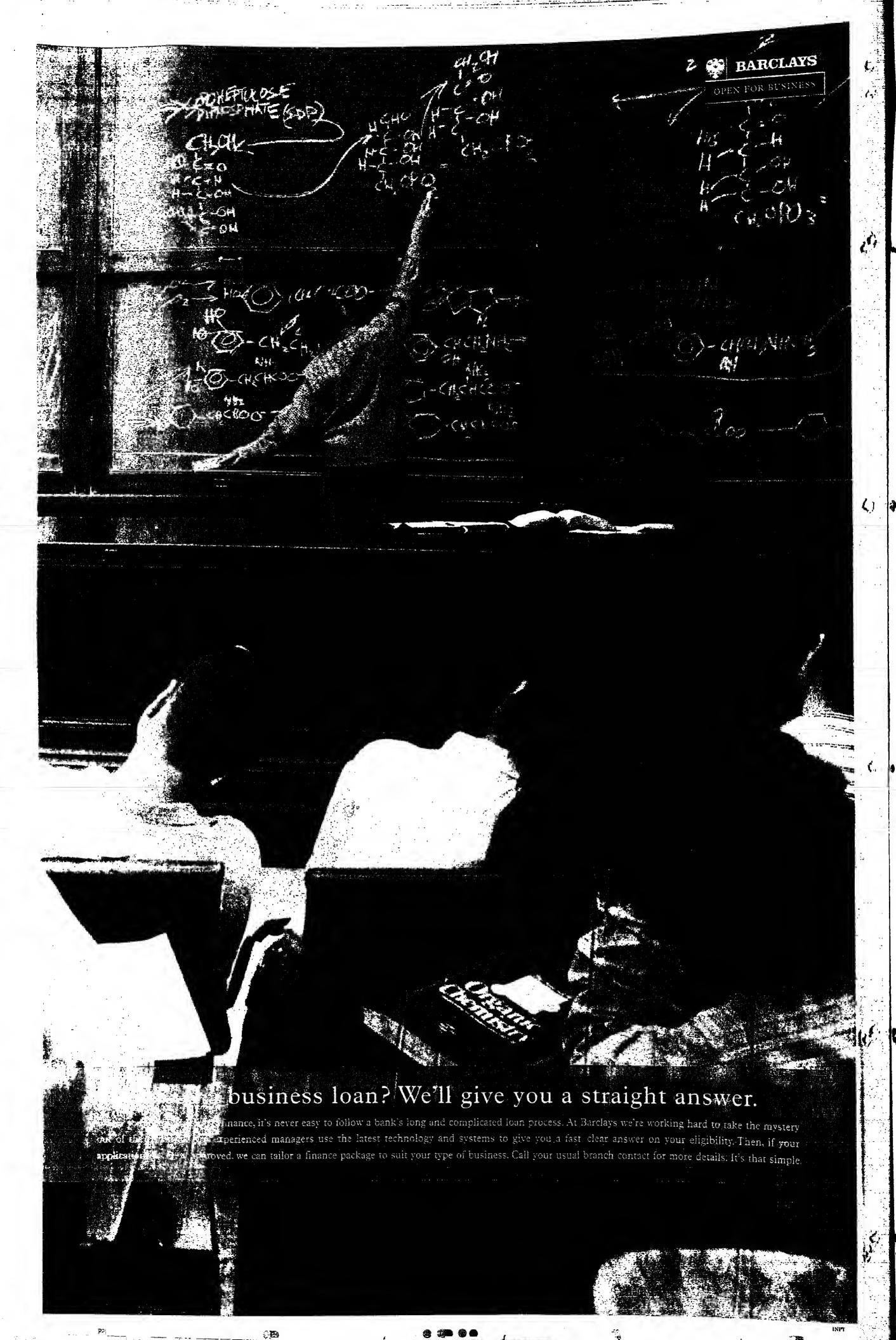
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He said that Mi could not stand for again and more want to in history with a relatings.

Man Utd sits on pay television * gold mine

Profits at Manchester United could double with the intro-duction of televised pay-per-view football even if millions of armchair fans pay as little as £5

a time, a new report suggests.
Underlining the potential
cash bouanza awaiting top clubs from the advent of pay-per-view television. Swiss investment bank UBS believes United could make an extra £30m a season from viewers watching Premier League games on a match-by-match basis.

UBS assumes 750,000 homes would take pay-per-view for a United game with revenues split equally between the clubs and BSkyB, the pay-television broadcaster that holds the rights to broadcast 60 live Premier League games each year.

Julian Easthope, the analyst who wrote the report, admits the numbers are conservative. With so many unknown factors, there is an enormous range of potential beoefits," he said.

A recent survey carried out by the Harris research group and seen by all 20 Premier come from pay-per-view deals League chairmen found that and persistent takeover rumatches shown live at different times at £10 a go could generate up to £2.5bn a year for the Premier to £25bn a year for the Premier to £25bn a year for the United's 1.0 home defeat by Intimes at £10 a go could gener-£380m for United.

The introduction of pay-per-view is allowed by 1999 under the terms of a four-year, £670m deal signed between BSkyB and the Premier League:

But it could be launched as early as next year as the main driver behind BSkyB's planned launch of up to 200 digital satellite channels, 60 of which are likely to show pay-per-view usual for media groups to own

late-night boot on BSkyB, which has 3.8 million existing subscribers to its sports chan-

The UBS report, which esti-mates Man United has 2.3 million fans in 900,000 UK homes. also highlights the "major hur-dle" in splitting PPV revenues between BSkyB and the small-

er Premier League clubs. Top teams such as Man United and Newcastle are lobbying for a larger slice of television in come, but smaller clubs fear this would only widen the gap be-tween the "haves" and the "have nots" in the Premiership.

UBS says one alternative might be an "electronic season ticket" like the one recently introduced in Spain.
This would allow viewers to

watch all Premiership games at, say, £9.99 a month in addition to BSkyB's existing service. Such a deal could be worth at least £10m to Man United by 1999, UBS argues. Shares in Manchester Unit-

ed have risen strongly this year, largely on the prospect of sharply higher televisioo income from pay-per-view deals

ventus in the UEFA Champions

On Wednesday media and leisure group Granada, said to be lining up a bid for United, insisted that buying the club made no sense.

Mr Easthope said that while only one factual bid for Man United had been made - from video group VCI - it was not un-



Sock it to them: Pay-per-view television is expected to reap rich rewards for top football clubs

Digital TV set back by DTI delay

Mathew Horsman Media Editor

The long-expected award of contracts for Britain's first digital set-top decoders looks like being delayed until next week at the earliest, industry sources said last night.
The shifting timetable for

the multi-billion pound digital revolution, which is being led by Rupert Murdoch's BSkyB, is linked to the delayed publica-

await the guidelines before un-

veiling its own set-top plans. BSkyB is expected to name up to four manufacturers to up to four manufacturers to build its set-top box, which will give digital subscribers access to as many as 200 channels of companies in recent weeks to television, data services, home banking and tele-shopping. The new service would pave the way for a commercially viable: pay-per-view market in the UK;

said yesterday. It is understood to 233.5p, on speculation that BSkyB, which plans to offer that BSkyB has now decided to it would be awarded a key boxes at below cost to contract

Meanwhile, it emerged last night that the Department of discuss the Government's approach to the regulation of digital television. These include the BBC and several independent commercial broadcasters, in-

consumers in order to kickstart the new market, has argued that it should not be forced to bear

the additional costs of making

the decoders "multi-opera

The DTI has so far rejected several radical demands for enforced "commoo interface." which would oblige BSkyB to make its boxes capable of decoding not only its own digital sport or films.

Interest in pay-per-view is a sporisocompany.

Interest in pay-per-view has the cited the crample of been stimulated by the stient of the crample of been stimulated by the stient of the crample of been stimulated by the stient of the crample of

American deal with Boeing worth \$20bn

David Usborne

New York

American Airlines yesterday announced a 103-plane order with the Boeing Corporation, and said it had options for no less than 500 more aircraft. The deal could emerge as the biggest in aviation history.

The announcement, which confirmed Wednesday's stock market speculation, is an un-fathomable boost for Boeing as it continues its global competi-tion with Airbus Industries. By contrast, it is miserable news for McDonnell Douglas, which will see some of its own aircraft eased out of the American fleet as a consequence of the deal.

Based on list prices, the firm order for the 103 planes is worth roughly \$6bn (£3.55bn), although American is certain to have negotiated a handsome discount Engre in the addidiscount. Factor in the additional 500 aircraft, and it will be worth in excess of \$20bn.

The deal remains contingent. however, on the ratification of the carrier and its 9,150-member pilots' union

American, which hopes to merge transatlantic operations with British Airways next spring, also announced it had agreed to make Boeing its exclusive supplier of aircraft at least until 2018. Curreotly, the airline has a mixed fleet and is the largest operator of McDonnell Douglas' narrow-body MD-80 pas-senger liner. It also has some Airbus planes.

The bulk of the order is for oew models of the Boeing 737 model, which is the world's most popular airliner. Other planes in the deal include the 757 and the 777. The 777 will replace American's long-haul MD-11 airlioers, which it purchased from McDonnell Douglas and found disappointing.

"Ordering the 737 is a major policy shift for American," said Scott Hamilton, of Commercial Airline Report.

American, which is based in Dallas, Texas, said it would take delivery of the 103 planes a new labour agreement that has just been oegotiated between 1998.

jection from Railtrack, the for-

mer British Rail subsidiary which

route must agree to using new,

125 mph tilting trains as a way

of cutting journey times. Tilting

trains, already popular in con-

tinental Europe, take corners at

a higher speed than conveo-

tional trains and could cut the

journey time between Londoo

and Manchester by 30 minutes

The West Coast main line is

to two hours.

Bidders for the 400-mile

operates Britain's rail network.

Three on West Coast shortlist

Patrick Tooher

Stagecoach, the rapidly expanding transport company, has been shortlisted to operate four passenger rail franchises, including the prestigious but run-down InterCity West Coast

Richard Bransoo's Virgin Group and shipping giant Sea Containers are also still in the running for the West Coast line, which connects London with the west Midlands, Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow and is one of the busiest lines in the country. All three companies were shortlisted from 14 poteotial bidders.

Stagecoach, which runs the South West Trains company, is Central Trains, North West Regional and ScotRail routes. The West Coast line was re-

one of the last of BR's 25 passenger franchises to be let. A final decision will be made by the Office of Passenger Rail Franchising, the industry regulator. Last week, Virgin was an-

nounced as preferred bidder for also being considered for the the extensive CrossCountry rail route. Virgin is also part of the ways consortium which runs cently promised a £1.5bn cash in- Eurostar trains.

Sugar sours Man results

Jill Treamor Banking Correspondent

ED & F Man, the British commodities and financial services firm, yesterday made bullish noises about prospects, despite announcing a slump in interim results from £32.8m to £27.2m, reflecting a poor performance from its sugar and cocoa busi-

Michael Metcalfe yesterday

resigned as chairman of the cocoa division, but the company denied his departure was related to an increase in losses in his op-eratioo. Mr Metcalfe had been an executive director since 1985. Harvey McGrath, group managing director, said he felt constructive about the second half, evidenced by the 6 per cent increase in its interim dividend to 3.4p. "Overall, we do a lot

more business in the second half, due to seasonal factors relating to crops and consumption patterns," Mr McGrath said. The cocoa business reported a first-half loss of £4.5m, compared with a £0.5m loss in the same period last year. Cocoa is now being run by Anthony Stil-

litano, who previously ran the US operation. The sugar business made a pre-tax profit of £12.5m, which compares with the £16m made in the first half of last year.

Mr McGrath said that acquisitions might be possible.

He said that ED & F Man, the British firm most affected by US rules on trade with Cuba, would comply with the law.

America's Helms-Burton Act allows court action against non-US companies that "traffic" in confiscated Cuban assets. However, Mr McGrath be-

lieves that Bill Clinton, the US President, will take action against the Act, which has prompted outcry in America. "Clinton has been re-elected and he will do something about it in due course," said Mr Mo-

He said that Mr Clinton could not stand for president again and may want to go down in history as having harmonised

£180m issue by United revives talk of TV bid

Mathew Horsman Media Editor

United News & Media yesterday tapped the financial markets for £180m, prompting renewed speculation that it would soon make fresh moves in the commercial television sector.

Proceeds from the issue of convertible bonds, carrying a coupon of just over 6 per cent, was said by the company to be earmarked for debt repayment and "general corporate pur-poses," and would replace existing deht with what the company called "better quality, longer-term debt". A longer-term debt". A spokesman added: "It's a housekeeping exercise."

Bot analysts said United, headed by Lord Hollick, was poised to pay between £75m and £80m for Westcountry, the ITV licence holder for the South West, in a widely flagged deal that could be announced by early next week. The debt "swapping" exercise could pro-vide a higher comfort level to investors in advance of the ac-

Speculation was mounting

yesterday that the Westcountry deal would be followed in the future by a bid for HTV, the ITV ficence holder for Wales and the West, which is worth about £350m at current market prices.

Derek Terrington, analyst at Teather & Greenwood, said: UK television is going to con-solidate further, and we all know what the targets are: it is just a matter of who and when." Chief among the likely targets are HTV and Yorkshire-Tyne Tees, in which Granada, the widely tipped buyer, has a 27 per cent stake.

United, which has been active on the acquisitioo froot in recent mooths, is widely seen as the most aggressive of the com-panies operating in the ITV sector. Under new ownership rules, in place since 1 November, companies are permitted to own as many licences as they like, provided they do not ex-ceed 15 per cent of total audience (including the BBC).
Analysis said United's fi-

nancing move was also an effort to lock in a relatively low inrate rises. The issue was called by some commentators a "rights sue by the back door," because the bonds can be converted into United shares.

"A straightforward rights is-sue would not have gone down well in the City," one leading media analyst said. "With United's high deht, it wouldn't make sense to issue equity." Louise Barton, analyst at Hen-

derson Crosthwaite, said the financing was "opportunistic and cheeky," adding "they didn't re-ally have to do it unless they have something in mind." She added that the timing of the issue might create concern in some quarters that United was poised to make a significant corporate move in addition to the "relatively minor" acquisition of Westcountry.

Indeed, concern that it might be obliged to overpay for TV investments helped send United's shares down 18p to 679p, reversing the gains of Wednesday.

The City has been granting Lord Hollick relatively robust support in recent mooths, and cheered his disposal of some reterest rate at a time when many gional newspaper interests and forecasters expected interest the purchase of Blenheim.

Japan forces struggling bank into liquidation

Japan's Ministry of Finance signalled its determination to clean op the debt-burdened banking system with the first forced liquidation of a commercial bank since the Second World War. -

The ministry decided yesterday that Hanwa Bank, a re-gional bank with ¥190bn (£1bn) in mostly property-linked bad loans, is insolvent and must be wound up imme-

Hanwa is the 15th Japanese bank to collapse in the last two years, and the first to be closed without the deposits being transferred to a new bank. Analysis praised the action

and predicted more shutdowns.

"This is a very good sign, and
it indicates the authorities are determined to get Japan's fi-nancial system back into good the amount of bad loans, now health as soon as possible, "said

analyst at HSBC James Capel. Mr Waterhouse said the ministry was "paying particular interest" to the bad loans of

four or five more of Japan's 150 commercial banks. The ministry sounded its own warning to insolvent banks. The Finance Ministry will not delay confronting the problems of failed financial institutions," Finance Minister

Hiroshi Mitsuzuka said yes-"A fast response will contribute to the recovery of Japan's financial system. Banking analysts say this

represents a change of heart for a ministry that has long failed to force weak financial institutions to shut. The delays have added to

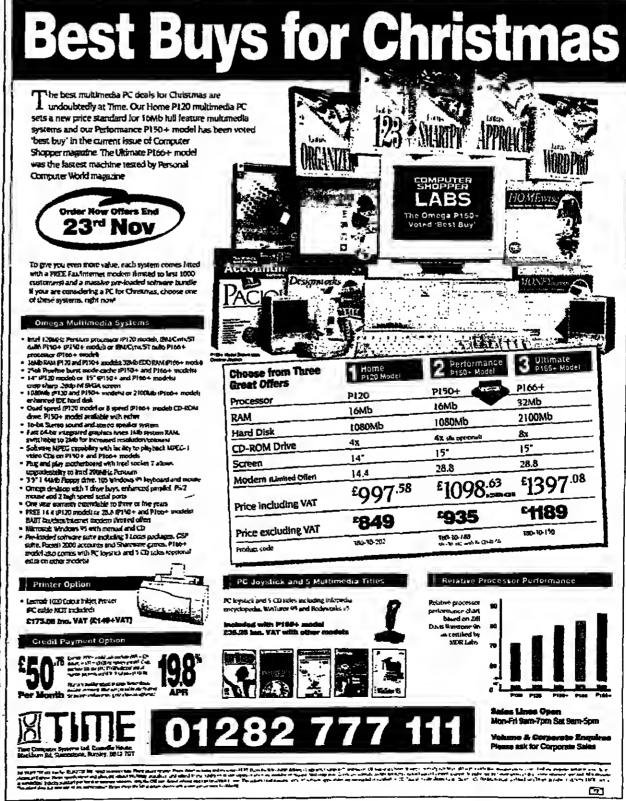
prices have plunged more than 55 per ceot since 1991, cutting deeply into the value of collateral.

The Ministry of Finance denies however that there will be more failures of Japanese regional banks if current economic conditions prevail. Sei Nakai, deputy director-

general of MOF's Banking Bureau, said that while the ministry was well aware of market rumours that there were more deht-ridden regional banks like Hanwa Bank, such concerns were not war-

Auditors for Hanwa Bank had instructed it to write off massive problem loans in the first half of the year to 30 September. This led to the bank having an excess of liabilities estimated at \\$35,000hn by over assets.

The state of the s



market report/shares

National Power surges ahead with help from NatWest **FTSE 100** 3953.8 - 9.0 NatWest Securities is emerging as the utilities friend. A day **FTSE 250** 4397.0 - 3.2 after the investment house put the signals at green for Rail-**FTSE 350** 1970.4 - 3.8

SEAQ VOLUME

746.5m shares,

35,978 bargains

94.59 + 0.31

Share spotlight

share price, pence

Shell

Gifts Index

track it gave another utility, National Power, a powerful National Power fell on Wednesday on disappointment with its figures. Ian Graham at NatWest clearly believes the stock market got it wrong.

Profits, after exceptional charges, were little changed, the dividend in line with expectations and "we continue to believe that the current yield fails to value the likely income stream", he said.

National Power was the bestperforming blue chip, almost recovering the profits-inspired fall with a 17p gain to 452p. And Railtrack continued its remarkable progress, advancing a further 10p to a 354p peak. Other utilities made

Labour Party's proposed wind-

PowerGen was up 9.5p to 588p; there was a sprinkling of gains in the water sector and London and Yorkshire bright-

ened on the electricity pitch. doubt whether Nat West could claim full credit for National Power's surge. A story has ket for weeks that Shell could descend on one of the generators, with National Power seen as the more likely target.

Shell, and to a lesser extent British Petroleum, is currently the market's bidder for all isons. And the general view is any bid will be a mega affair with a high chance a utility will be the target.

British Gas is another accorded the distinction of Shell interest. Talk of corporate action, with Shell as the favoured



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN stock market reporter of the year

was generated by weekend reports of a deal. After flaring 24p to 232.5p.

British Gas has subsided, closing 6.6p lower at 222p as not even the slightest hint of Shell interest has been discovered. Shell and the other leading oil shares gave ground, unsettled by rumours a shipping company had defaulted on a

contract. Shares of Shell lost 10.5p to 981p and BP 6.5p to 678p.
The rest of the market suffered another session of Bud-

get-inspired inactivity, drifting aimlessly. Footsie ended 9 points down at 3,953.8.

and third liners. Dealers are finding it increasingly difficult to trade lines in medium and small companies. "There are no takers. The system has come to a hait," complained one stockbroker. The FISE supporting 250 index closed 3.2 down at 4,397.

Besides the Budget uncertamty, the market remains unsettled by higher interest rate fears and sterling's strength.
Government stocks were, however, encouraged by the pound's performance scoring gains of up to £11/16th.

Guinness was pulled another 6p higher to 445.5p. Cazenove was said to be pos-

surface, emerged again. LVMH has 21 per cent of the spirits and stout group and, ac-cording to popular theory, is busy sounding out institutions about selling all or part of its stake. The LVMH holding is worth around £1.7bn, which would represent a huge swallow for a market in such sub-

RTZ, helped by the firmer copper price, made more headway, reaching 964p, up.

There was, briefly, a buzz of Wireless. A trade of 115 million shares at 476.5p was printed. The market was perplexed. Stake building ahead of a bid? Before thoughts could be put together, it was admitted the deal had been overstated; it was, in fact, a much less starting 115,000 shares. The misat 476p.
Inspirations, the bolidays

group, lost a further 4p to 68-5p on worries it was encountering more trading difficulties but newcomer Snakeboard ended at 3.75p from a 3p placing.
Maid, the on-line information group ruffled by cash call fears, recovered 19p to 249.5p

on talk of a collaboration deal with a Japanese group. NSM, the coal and plant hire group, crashed 19.5p to 23p on a warning of losses and Baidwin, the restaurant chain, fell 12.5p to 117.5p.

Reflec, which has developed a novel technology to make reflective inks for clothing, gained 5p to 129p. The group, which arrived oo AIM at 40p a share in April, is placing 560,000 shares at 125p (7.37 per cent of the enlarged capital) through stockbroker Peel Hunt. The £690,000 proceeds will be used

sale story, never far below the Cable shares ended 5.5p down Shares of Electrophoretics cidedly sick. The diagnostic

research group is striving to identify protein markers as a way to diagnose BSE in live cattle and working on a patent for identifying CID, the human equivalent of mad cow disease. Its shares, 180p at the start of the year, have fallen to 37.5p

Jarvis is back in the takeover frame. The shares jumped 10p to 133p. A bid from Amey is thought likely. Both have railway maintegestion is Amey could bid with Barratt Developments which would take the Jarvis construction side.

Car Group, a second hand car dealer trading as Car Supermarkets, is coming to

progress, ironically on the day the Commons debated the predator, had drifted rather The malaise is even more itive and the LVMH share pronounced among second FTSE 100 - Reel-time 00 Sterling Rates 04 UK Stock Market Report 01 Bullion Report 05 UK Company News 02 Wall St Report 20 Roreign Eachange 03 Tokyo Market 21 Anyone with a tone-dial telephone can use this service. For a detailed description of The independent index, including its portfolio facility, phone 0891 123 333. For assistance, call our helpline 0171 873 4375 (930am - 530pm). 11.00 39556 down 72 32.00 39600 down 28 13.00 39607 down 21 **Celebrating its** Fifth Anniversary On 3rd December 1996 The Independent will publish a Special pullout Supplement highlighting the campaign's work to increase the quality and quantity of women's participation in the work force. ¥ THE INDEPENDENT **Government Securities**



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'You ain't going to get screwed,' Bates promises

Patrick Tooher

Ken Bates, chairman of Chelsea Village, made his own inimitable contribution to the corporate governance debate yesterday by urging wary shareholders to trust him and his fellow directors on the thorny issue of

"Have faith that you ain't going to get screwed by the guys on this board," he told a questioner at the company's maiden annual meeting who was worried about the potentially dilutive effects of Chelsea's executive share option scheme. Mr Bates also insisted the

board was not unstable despite the resignation of three directors since Chelsea Village, owner of the football club, was floated on the Alternative Investment Market this year.

The latest departure came a fortnight ago when Peter Middieton abruptly resigned as non-executive director after losing out to Mr Bates in a boardroom power struggle.

Mr Middleton, a leading fig-ure in the City, left after Mr Bates refused his request to appoint an independent executive director to the board following the sudden death last month of Matthew Harding, the insur-ance industry millionaire who beld a quarter of Chelsea Village's shares.

Mr Bates told shareholders it was "not wise to discuss at the present time" the reason for Mr Middleton's resignation.

On the financial front, Mr Bates said he did not expect Cheisea Village to be cash positive until the development of Stamford Bridge, the company's West London stadium, is completed in 1998.

Only after a cash positive position was achieved would the board consider paying a divi-dend, he added.



Eve on the ball: Ken Bates tried to aliay fears about the potentially dilutive effect of executive share options

£30m to continue the development, which had been thrown into doubt by Mr Harding's death in a helicopter accident.

The Stamford Bridge redevelopment involves a 160-bedroom hotel, four restaurants, a 1,000 capacity banqueting suite, a 10,500 sq ft merchandising centre, a seven-room business centre and 24,000 sq ft of serviced offices.

Mr Bates said completion of the South Stand by the end of 1997 would bring Stamford

Last week Mr Bates claimed Bridge's capacity to 34,000, to be well on the way to raising adding that the planned redevelopment of the West Stand would increase capacity further to 44,000.

Designs for the redevelopment of the West Stand are at an advanced stage and a planning application to the local council will be made in the first week of December. Building work should start in May 1997. Mr Bates said that when the

Stamford Bridge development was complete it would be one of the most overdeveloped 12-

Revamped Storehouse good value

whether you think the company's share price slump over the past year is wholly justified or one of the biggest valuation anomalies on the market. Having tumbled from 361p in April to yesterday's close of 275.5p, up 6p. Storehoose has been one of the worst

performers in recent months. That seems a harsh assessment of a company that has grown underlying profits from £16m in 1992 to an estimated £126m this year and £145m next time. On the face of it Keith Edelman, former managing director of Carlton, has done a tremendous job since joining Terence Conran's retail rag-bag three years ago, cutting costs, fresh-ening up the appearance of a tired bunch of high street has-beens and

sharpening buying and merchandising.
The trouble, according to the bearish camp, is that Storehouse has grown profits without any improvement to the top sales line. That matters for two reasons. First, margin improvements from good housekeeping are finite - with-out pushing bigger volumes, profits growth will falter. It has also triggered scepticism about accounting policies that have allowed that apparent magic.

Half-year figures yesterday con-firmed the group's difficulty in pushing sales in its remaining Bhs and Mothercare stores (it sold Blazer recently). Same store growth of 3 per cent at Bhs and a fall of 2 per cent from Mothercare shops showed how dependent Storehouse is on making a success of deals such as the recent acquisition of Childrens World.

Against that background, increasing underlying profit before exceptional items (the £20.5m one-off cost of integrating Childrens World) by 13 per cent to £37.5m was once again impressive. Sales were up 14 per cent, half of that like for like, driven by another strong performance from the rapidly growing overseas franchise arm. The interim dividend rose a tenth to 3.3p.

Bulls of Storehouse argue that criticisms of Storehouse's management are without foundation and amount to little more than a decisioo by some analysts that they don't like the company. They also dismiss the accounting worries as scaremongering and suggest the recent price fall has made the stock one of the best value in the sector.

On the basis of pre-tax profits this year of £126m, the shares stand on a prospective price/earnings ratio of 13.5, falling to under 12 the following year if Storehouse makes £145m. That represents a sizeable discount to the market as a whole compared to the pre-

There are two sharply divergent schools of thought on Storehouse and which one you adhere to will determine THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

Storehouse : at a glance

of the retail sector is enjoying during the current consumer boom. This does seem to be an anomaly and the

Waddington wraps up profits

Waddington, the plastic cups to direct mail printing group, is at last showing signs of delivering on its promise. Af-ter a lengthy period of restructuring and investment, including the sale of the Monopoly and Cluedo games business two years ago, Waddington claims to be firing on seven of its eight cylinders. This is supported by the announce-

ment yesterday of pre-tax profits up 36 per cent to £15.5m in the six months to September. Even stripping out loss-makers since disposed of, the under-lying rise remains a healthy 25 per cent. The one cylinder still mistring as far

as Waddington is concerned is the UK cartons business. Profits there fell 15

Pre-tax profits (2m)

Dividends per share (pence)

Return on sales-Bhs

First half

Second half

minum of up to 20 per cent that the rest sales and it is clear that Waddington is having difficulty handling the supplier rationalisation measures being undertaken by big customers like Unilever, Nestle and Colgate despite its success in winning this muchvaunted "pan-European sourcing" business. Waddington believes things will be sorted out by the year-end and the cracking performance in Europe, where both sales and profits were up by around a quarter, suggests it may

> up 9 per cent at £4.6m in the six months. The group is less worried about the specialist printing mail-shot operation. where profits down 6 per cent at £3.4m were blamed on the installation of new hi-tech presses and a leaner mix of business. The group's investment should leave it well placed to cash in on the increasing importance of so-phisticated direct mail in marketing products. But Waddington has been heavily reliant on the one-off bouanza created by building society conversions and florations and it remains to be seen

whether that business can be replaced. Elsewhere, both the upmarket plasper cent despite a 17 per cent rise in tic cups to food containers and phar-

maceuticals packaging divisions are tanking ahead. Profits growth of 61 and 55 per cent respectively was driven by acquisitions, but new business growth is strong. A contract with Boston Markets, a US take-away restaurani chain, should deliver \$25m (£15m) of business by the year-end.
Full-year profits of £32.5m would put

the shares, up 6p at 264.5p, on a forward multiple of 12. Good value.

Wiseman milks Scottish market

In Britain's highly competitive milk mar-ket, the strategy of Robert Wiseman Dairies certainly stands out from the crowd. While Unigate and Northern Foods have been scaling down their milk operations to cope with the rapid de-cline of doorstep deliveries, Wiseman has been doing the reverse. Since com-ing to the stock market in March 1994. Alan Wiseman's group has been buyright. Overall, cartons profits were Alan Wiseman's group has been buy-ing up smaller dairies to build market share. It now has almost half the market in Scotland, a figure that will rise to around 90 per cent if its proposed deal to buy rival dairy, Scottish Pride, is cleared by the Monopolies and Mergers
Commission. It is also making a push
into northern England with a new milk
processing plant in Manchester.
Robert Wiseman's advantage over

its larger rivals is that it has never really had much of a doorstep milk business So while rivals have had to cope with painful downsizing, Wiseman has been able to concentrate on developing state of the art plants to service supermarket clients. Its Manchester plant is geared up to supply 100 per cent of its output to the supermarkets.

Though Wiseman shares have performed strongly since their flotation in March 1994, the outcome of the Scot-tish Pride deal is crucial to future performance. It the deal is cleared the group should enjoy several more years of earnings growth. If it fails and the prize goes to a rival such as MD Foods which is very aggressive on price, Wiseman could find its margins under pressure. A decision from the MMC is expected next month.

In the meantime, acquisitions helped hoost first-half profits to £6.1m from £4.6m. Like Northern Foods, margins have been hit due to the weak prices of bulk cream. On a more positive note it has continued to increase sales to supermarkets. BZW is forecasting full-year profits of £12.5m. With the shares 1.5p lower at 174p yesterday they trade on a forward rating of 15. Hold.

Glenmorangie makes case for higher margins

City Editor

Malt whisky maker Glenmorangie's new strategy of focusing on higher-margin cased sales rather than bulk turnover to the whisky hlenders appeared to pay off in the six months to September with group sales rising 26 per cent and operating profits bounding ahead by almost a third.

Shares in the company, which used to be known as Macdonald Martin Distillerics, jumped 55p to 815p on the news. Geoffrey Maddrell, chair-

man, said: "These results confirm that the company is on course. We are achieving our strategy aimed at growth and improved quality of earnings and are meeting our planned financial targets whilst effecting

major changes."
The fortunes of Scotch whisky distiller Glenmorangie have been transformed since Mr Maddrell, former boss of textiles group Tootal, was installed as chairman in 1994. He shifted the group's strategy to beavy investment in marketing premium thrands, including the Glenmorangie and Glen Moray single malis.

Single malts have been the fastest-growing part of an otherwise stagnant whisky market in recent years. According to the Scotch Whisky Association sin-

Magnus Grimond

Restructuring in its German ma-terials handling business has

helped nush Babcock hack into

the black, but the famous en-

gineering group surprised ana-

lysts by halving its interim

dividend just a year after restor-

ing the payment.
Profits before exceptional

six months to September, re-

placing a loss of £17.1m in the immediately preceding period. The interim dividend is being cut from 1.25p to 0.625p, which

the company says reflects the

full in earnings following the

£26m exceptional profit gained

items came in at £2.7m in the

Babcock returns

to the black

gle malts grew by 5 per cent in the year to July. Against that growth, Glenmorangie increased sales of cased malt by

30 per cent. The US market continued to act as the motor of growth with the core brand growing by 36 per cent in Ameoca. In the UK, sales in the off-trade were 15 per cent higher. That made up for slower-than-expected sales in India where demand for bottled-in-India Scotch is growing more slowly than anticipated.

Asia is growing in importance as a market for Scotch and Glenmorangie's Highland Queen brand is hig in India. In China a joint venture has been established to produce whisky

and local spirits.
Sales in the period grew 26
per cent to £22.8m with cased sales within that total increasing by 69 per cent. Operating profit increased by 32 per cent to £5.42m while after a rise in interest payable, pre-tax profits were 7 per cent higher at

While maintaining some tra-ditions, such as its insistence on maturing its whisky in Ozark Mountain north-facing white oaks, Glenmorangie has taken the axe to outdated bottling and packaging facilities and invested heavily in modern production facilities on a new 32-acre site. Mr Maddrell said he was confident of a hocyant Christmas.

last time from the sale of the

Renfrew-based boiler making

"The rehabilitation programme

has been tougher and more de-

manding than was envisaged at

the outset. However, in the

last six months we have

developments."

achieved a number of positive

The turnaround has seen the

material handling division replace

a loss of £14m in the last full year,

mainly in Germany, with 1985,000 profits in the latest pe-

nod. Mr Parker said they had cut 40 per cent of the German work-

force and appointed Dr Gernot

Schafer as its managing director. (7)- First (8)- Institute (11)- A shares

John Parker, chairman, said:

IN BRIEF

• Shares in NSM more than halved at one stage yesterday after the mining group warned it expected to make a loss in the half year to September and announced it was in talks with its banks. The group said the US investment bank PaineWebber had been appointed to sell its US operations, which was likely to be done at a "substantial" discount to net assets. Other assets are also being lined up for sale. The discussions with bankers centre on the group's immediate short-term working capital requirements and the capital structure resulting from the proposed disposal. NSM said its main business would be in south Wales, supported by opencast mining operations in England and Scotland after the latest deals. The shares closed at 23p, down 19.5p.

 Avesco, the television facilities group, is tapping shareholders for £7.1m to finance its capital expenditure programme and re-duce gearing which stood at 45 per cent in September. Shares in the placing and open offer are being allocated on a two-for-seven basis at 282p. The group said it had spent £6.5m on capital equipment and investments in the six months to September. It now planned around £5m of capital expenditure, including Sony Jumbo Tron screens and new projection and camera equipment.
Further consideration of \$1.5m (£900,000) may also be due on

its minority investments next year, the group said. Avesco announced that profits had more than doubled to £1.76m in the six months to September and it is raising the interim dividend by a

 Argent, the property group, has sold a retail park to mutually-owned life insurer Scottish Widows for £29.5m. The price fetched for the Mayllower retail park in Basildon represented a premium to book value, Argent said. The deal is Scottish Widows' first foray in the sector.

 Development Securities' Milton & Shire House is fully let after the completion yesterday of a letting of 60,000 square feet to Linklaters & Paines, the City law firm. The site was bought in 1994 on behalf of Haus Invest, an open-ended property fund of Commerzbank, Germany's third higgest bank.

 Macdonald Hotels, which came to the market in March, anaounced a 15 per cent rise in profits for the helf year to September, during which it acquired five hotels to take its portfolio to 22. Occupancy in the six-month period of 68 per cent was achieved at an average room rate of £42.64 to give an average yield per room of £29.04, up 4 per cent on the previous year. The shares, which came to the market at 145p, closed 1p higher at 211p.

Company Results

Terreover £ Pre-tax £ EPS

ĺ	Avesto (I)	19.6m (8.71m)	1.76m (0.81m)	10.1p (8.3p)	2p (1.5p)
l	Bahcock lati (I) · · ·	.320m (384m)	4.58m (19.2m)	1.8p (10.77p)	· (·)
ŀ	British Energy (I)	864m (1.12bm)	418m (-553m)	61,3p (-79p)	4.6p (-)
ł	City & Leadon PR (5)	1.39m (1.47m)	0.49m (0.44m)	4.54p (3.93p)	1.7p (1.54p)
ŀ	Chilerida Bressp (I)	64 4m (59.0m)	4.79m (3.54m)	1.66p (1.21p)	0.18p (0.133p)
l	Dart Group (I)	26.9m (35.0m)	2.41m (2.02m)	10.1p (8.9p)	21p (-)
Ì	David Slace Assoc (I)	0.74m (0.49m)	0.27m (0.14m)	3.34p (1.85p)	3p (·)
-	DES Macagement (1)	59.9m (33.8m)	2.73m (1.31m)	22.5p (12.9p)	8 p (3.5p)
	a Elioti (i)	55.8m (54.3m)	-1.14m (2.42m)	-4.Q1p (4.B8p)	1.2p (1.2p)
	ED & F Man Group (I)	- (-)	27.2m (32.8m)	6.9p (8.5p)	3.4p (3.2p)
	Gienmorangie (1)	22.8m (16.1m)	4.3m (4.02m)	†22.07p (20.93p)	13.02Sp (-)
	Honeytackin (F)	20.5m (19_3m)	-1.2m (0.58m)	-10.3p (4.7p)	1p (2.5p)
	Loyades Lembert (1)	40.4m (35.4m)	5.0m (6.0m)	5.4p (6.9p)	2.9p (2.9p)
ļ	Macdonald Hotols (I)	19.2m (15.4m)	4.58m (2.72m)	5.78p (4.81p)	1.5p (nll)
	Hersing Home Props (F)	3.51m (0.83m)	1.14m (0.14m)	4.44p (2.32p)	3.7p (0.8p)
	On Demack Into (F)	11,4m (6,79m)	-29m (-3.6m)	-5.6p (-7.2p)	- (-)
	Quadramatic (F)	82.8m (46.0m)	18.0m (10.0m)	18.Sp (16.3p)	9.3p (8,15p)
	Persoli Dellays (I)	414m (435m)	16.1m (16.8m)	13.8p (12.9p)	8p (8p)
-	Robert Wissums Dakies (I)	91.0m (58.9m)	6.1m (4.6m)	5.47p (4.47p)	1.15p (1p)
	Saleway (I)	3,72bn (3,49bn)	225m (214m)	14.4p (13.2p)	4.4p (4.05p)
	Shield Dispublics (1)	2.72bn (2.73bn)	-29°L 1m (43.6m)	-1.56p (0.18p)	- (-)
	Storebouse (I)	597m (519m)	37.5m (33.3m)	6.1p (5.3p)	3.3p (3p)
1	Vez Hakilinga (1)	12.0m (10.6m)	0.55m (0.23m)		李(*)
	Thereichment (F)	26.3m (20.8m)	1.30m (1.13m)	14.5p (12.3p)	11.5p (11.5p)
	Yocalis Group (I)	0.63m (0.25m)	-0.85m (-0.85m)		<u>- (+)</u>
	Yerk Waterworks (I)	4.33m (4.25m)	1.8m (1.7m)	19.3p (18.8p)	4.2p (3.85p)
ľ	W-delecton (f)	158m (144m)	15.5m (11.5m)	10.540 (7.90)	4.4p (4p)

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Long-standing policyholders do not deserve much compensation

Tens of hillions of pounds are being handed out to the owners of Britain's insurance companies and building societies as they convert to conventional companies with ordinary shareholders.

Yet it is extraordinary that. with so much at stake, and seven years after the first largescale demutualisation, there is still a complete muddle over how to distribute the proceeds fairly to to the owners - the policyholders, depositors and bor-

Building societies have already thrown up a fair share of anomalies in the way they pay their former owners for agree-

ing to give up mutual status.

Abbey National was the first to convert to a bank in 1989. and gave a flat-rate reward in sbares to all qualifying cus-tomers, regardless of how much business they did with the society. Other societies decided the fairest way was to relate payments to the size of members' deposits and loans, until Alliance & Leicester caused a row last month by switching back to flat-rate payments, just like Abbey National.

But these differences among the building societies about what constitutes fairness pale mio insignificance beside those thrown up by life insurers, where questions of compensation are proving far more complicated.

Norwich Union will be the first life insurer to float on the stock market, but many others have already dropped mutual status to allow themselves to be bought by another company. In all cases, with profits policyholders, the owners, must be compensated for giving up

Most people have assumed that payments should be larger for those who bave been members for a long time and have built up substantial funds. This follows the conventional building society model (excluding, of course, the anomalies of Alliance & Leicester and Abbey National).

Foreign Exchange Rates

18899 11-9
22640 54-49
25330 69-61
858452770-1980
25306 31-45
18811 95-91
2777 28-15
82-74
19877 222-177
28-15 82-74
19877 160-80
21033 12-21
1181 15-8
21405 85-76
13066 93-52
42585 0-0
23778 6-70
23676 0-0

Other Spot Rates

Garmany
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Japan
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Norway
Spain
Swieden
Switzerland
Australia*
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24-23 30-28 86-81 29-35 48-47 7-5 99-79 39-37 6-3 50-25 16-30 27-30 54-56 1-4 24-19

Country

Jim Stretton, chief executive of Standard Life, has thrown the cat among the pigeons by suggesting that the fair method for insurance companies is exactly the opposite of the commonly accepted practice.

Mr Stretton has an axe to grind because be is a determined opponent of demutualisation. But be says the shorter the time a policyholder has been with a company and the lower the funds built up, the higher the compensation should be. Perverse though this sounds, there is a compelling logic to it, which derives ultimately from the different behaviour of building societies

and life insurers. Many building societies have run themselves just like banks, accumulating large reserves to expand their businesses, instead of handing their profits back to their owners in the form higher deposit rates.

The characteristic that sets mutual insurers apart from building societies is that they have always routinely distributed most of their profits to their policybolders through

annual and terminal bonuses. There is a fuzzy dividing line, because insurers also build up their reserves to a certain extent from their profits, as their uation of mutual status, and businesses grow. But the basic philosophy, that the financial have begun to distribute their success of the organisation profits by giving cheaper deals

102.8

Mutuals

Proprietary

Acquisition*

Expense ratios %

Lapse rates 1995 %

*of new business **of existing business

75-73 90-87 269-258 91-91 44-45 20-17 298-247 121-15 10-6 19-99 40-48 152-101 189-14 33-35 2-7 80-85 97-95 70-95

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Peter Rodgers

'Mr Stretton argues that payments should be reduced with the length of time a policy has been held'

should be shared with customers each year, is much more evident among insurers than building societies.

Some building societies have belatedly realised that this is the only way to justify the contin-

With-profit policy performance 1986-95

Interest Rates

Bond Yields

Tourist Rates

6yr yand %
71% 72979
64% 582
551% 176
64% 668
6251% 491
5426 486

London Canada Prine Olscount Denmark Discount

102.3 97.5

Mutual

77.7

Proprietary

icyholder becomes just anothon mortgages, and better deer customer of an ordinary Mr Stretton's argument is company. The longer the polthat long-standing policyhold-ers of mutual insurance sociicy has to run after conversion, the more the cumulative short-

eties have already received fall will be. their fair rewards as owners, be-This argument only stands cause the societies' profits have up if there is evidence that mubeen used over the years to imtual societies produce better reprove their bonuses. Indeed, he sults than proprietary insurers. goes further, and says the pol-It is certainly true that 10 per icyholders who deserve the cent of the profits in the life most compensation are those funds of proprietary companies who have taken out policies just belong to shareholders, whereahead of demutualisation. as the entire amount belongs Therefore payments to policyto with-profits policyholders in a mutual company. holders for accepting demutu-Michael Doerr, chief exec-utive of Friends Provident, calalisation should be structured

so they reduce with the length of time a policy has been held. culates that his mutual Mr Stretton says: "The cus-tomer whose policy matures one day before demutualisation policyholders receive 15 per cent more in bonuses than they would after a switch to takes place deserves no comproprietary ownership. There pensation, because his or her policy has been fulfilled under is a gearing effect, because Friends is owned by a diminthe terms and conditions be or ishing percentage of its cusshe originally contracted for. tomers. The proportion of with-profits policies on the However, anyone who has just taken out a policy, or who may be committed to the books is falling as it diversifies into other areas of insurance. process of taking out a policy, suffers the greatest change and the greatest risk that the Last month, The Independent published research by John Chapman, a former senior of-

102,6

Proprietary

Source: Standard Life

Prime 8,75% Discount 5,00% Fed Funds 5,25% Spain 10-Day Repo 6,75% Sweden Repo (Ave) 4,60%

ontcome for them may be subficial at the Office of Fair stantially worse than they were Trading, showing that mutual societies produced better reoriginally led to expect." In other words, a policyturns for their customers. Mr Stretton produces similar eviholder who has recently joined is shortchanged by the loss of dence that mutuals perform mutuality. Having signed up exbetter than the rest (see table). If Mr Stretton is right, com-panies such as Scottish Equipecting the long-term benefits of mutual ownership, the pol-

table, that have paid nothing to new policyholders and most to those who have been with the society a long time, have got it back to front If there is so much disagreement about the funda-

mentals, perhaps a halt should be called to the demutualisation process while the actuarial and insurance professions sort out who owns what and how much they are owed. Otherwise, when somebody

does establish to everyone's satisfaction what fairness means vast numbers of people will find they have been robbed and others will have received rewards they do not deserve.

Headed for divorce, but Pammy keeps her bottle

Readers will have heard of the highly publicised marital split between Baywatch babe Pamela Anderson and her taltooed rock star husband, Tommy Lec.

You may not have realised, however, the threat this bad publicity represents to Richard Branson's Virgin Cola, which introduced the "Pammy" cola bottle last February, based on Anderson's curvaceous form.

Nick Kirkbride, managing director of Virgin Cola, glossed over Anderson's marital difficulties yesterday, say-ing: "We still love her." Asked whether Lee, the

drummer with Motley Crue, would make a suitable substirate as a cola bottle, or whether Virgin would change the Pannny bottle, Mr Kirkbride said: "I'm not sure what Tommy Lee would look like, or whether it would be legal to put him in the shape of a

American businessmen often appear brash and self-publicising, but few can equal John P. Imlay for sheer impact.

Mr Imlay is over here to push his book Jungle Rules: How to be a Tiger in Business. a light and amusing read. It tells how he turned around his computer software company, MSA, from bankruptcy to sell it for \$333m.

It also recounts how be used to dress up in costumes and use wild animals, especially tigers, to liven up his motivational seminars. "The tiger bit a woman and dragged her across the patio. I take goldfish now,"

That's one way of livening up the sales force, I suppose. Oliver Ashworth, Manchester-based valve makers, issued its float prospectus on

Tuesday - but only just.
The finished draft of the pricing document was delivered to printers Williams Lea on Monday evening, and copies should have been ready for inspection the following morning.

PEOPLE & BUSINESS



ready until Tuesday afternoon, for one simple reason. Williams Lea was taken over by an American company on Monday, and the Americans were too busy handing out P45s at the printing plant to allow the Oliver Ashworth prospecti to be printed.

Happily everything has now been sorted out. Oliver Ashworth, led by chief executive Roger McDowall and commercial director Philip Mc-Dowall, is backed by the likes of Rothschilds venture capital, with 23 per cent, and MAM Private Equity, with 6 per cent. Let's hope they can complete the float before they too get gobbled up.

Scruttons, the engineering and shipping group, is plan-ning to float off its manned guarding business on AIM. Given the business is a tiddler by stock market standards, it's good to see that Scruttons chairman, Sir Peter Parker, is keeping the publicity side in the family.

The company has retained three spokespeople from top City spin doctors Brunswick to oversee the float. Sir Peter's son, Alan Parker, is the proprietor of Brunswick.

Sir Rocco Forte and his Italian wife, Aliai, took the train north from London to YorkGranada announced its first results following the acquisition of Forte.

A year ago nearly to the day. Sir Rocco was also in the north, preparing to go shootnounced its results and its £3.3bn bid for Forte.

This time Sir Rocco doesn't have so much to worry about, and certainly won't be forced to burry back to London.

Gordon Campbell, the chief executive at Courtaulds, is sporting a swish new suit in a subtle shade of olive green. Mr Campbell tells me that the suit is made of Tencel,

Courtaulds's new wonder fihre made in a plant in Knrea. Tencel feels like silk but is 10 times more hard-wearing", or something like that. The Courtaulds boss ordered the suit last Tuesday

morning and it was ready by Thursday afternoon, a wonder of Far Eastern service. Mr Campbell contrasts this with his experience this week, when he took some shirts in

to be cleaned at a dry cleaners in London. Wheo asked when he wanted them back, he said: "Next-

week."
"Just as well. We can't do ... them till next Wednesday," was the reply.

John Willcock

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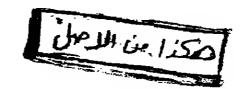
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A new Harwood takes control

"Tve never been to Manton," Amanda Perrett says as the Land Rover wades through the mud towards the highest point of the Coombelands training complex, "but they say that this place certainly rivals it."

The legan to the state of the s

It is not a point worth arguing. An aerial photograph on the wall of the main office, in which the huildings and boxes fill a space the size of a postage stamp amid a wrapping sheet of gallops and schooling grounds. gives an idea of the scale of Coombelands. Only from the top of the main gallop, however, is it possible to appreciate fully the transformation wrought on a hillside of Sussex farmland by Guy Harwood, Amanda's father, in the 30 or so years since he started to train horses here.

"We've got 150 acres of maintained gallops land," his daughter says, "four all-weath-er gallops which everyone says are the best they've ever ridden on, and numerous others on grass which can be irrigated from our ponds. We've got beautiful fences on the schooling grounds, a swimming pool, horse-walker, and an American bend which really helps with the

two-year-olds. What they have also got, despite Coombelands' relative youth, is the whiff of history. The names of the horses which passed through Guy Harwood's hands here in the late 1970s and 1980s reduce punters of a certain age to a misty-eyed mood of reminiscence, rather like a foothall fan reflecting on the

Liverpool side of the same era. There was Rousillon, To Agori Mou, Kalaglow, Sadeem, Warning, and, above all, Dancing Brave, who swept through Dancing Brave and Warning in

Greg Wood on a top trainer's daughter now in charge at Coombelands stables

the summer and autumn of all their work. Amanda's name a hideous pilot error.

daughter to this same vantage point above the estate at around this time and, with a wide sweep of the arm, declaring solemnly.
"One day, Amanda, all this
will be yours." Unlikely, perhaps, since solemnity is not an obvious family trait, but what is certain is that the day has now arrived. Two weeks ago, the licence at Coombelands passed down a generation, and at 26

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Rangitikei (Ascot 1.00) NB: Cadougold (Ascot 3.40)

years of age - a year older than was her father at the same point in his career - Amanda Perrett assumed control of one of Britain's finest yards.

Very few trainers start out so young, and even fewer with such facilities and experience behind them. Some might actually prefer to set off with a handful of horses in one of Lambourn's more anonymous stables, and find their way without the burden of history or expectation. For this new trainer, though, nowhere else would do, not least since her marriage to Mark Perrett, the stable's resident jump jockey for many years until his retirement in Feb-

ruary and the man who rode

1986 after being robbed of victory in the Derby at Epsom by for success will be a team effort. "Mark's had so much riding

It is tempting to imagine experience, which is a real Harwood senior taking his bonus," she says. "He's ridden at almost every course in the country, so he knows which track will suit which horse. It's also a real art to judge how good a horse is on the gallops, and there's no-one better than him."

Between them, the Perretts have taken much of the responsibility for the stable's National Hunt string for several years. "We've had a really good grounding," she says, "and as Dad has gradually out down to 40 or 50 horses we've had a lot more to do with the running of the yard. The only thing that will really change is that instead of us offering advice and Dad making the final decisions, it'll be the other way around. He can come on quite strong with his advice, but in the end he'll say.

"it's up to you now, you decide". There is little sense of pressure to succeed, just confidence that they will. "Obviously, we're expected to do well," Mark says, "but that's because of what's gone on here before. If it doesn't happen, I suppose everyone will put it down to ..." It is as far as he gets. "We will do it," Amanda interrupts.
"We've got some really nice horses. We will do it," Once wolved with the training, and we again, no argument is necessary.

during the winter months in- as Mark puts it, "if they come chide Amancio and Fine Thyne, while the Perretts hope to hear within a couple of weeks whether they will receive any



Vista of inheritance: Mark and Amanda Perrett overlook land made famous by Harwood triumphs on the track

Photograph: Robert Hallan

yearlings from Khalid Abdullah, the mainstays of the yard throughout its glory years. "Change is always difficult," Amanda says, "but the owners volved with the training, and we want people to come down to The horses expected to do it see what we have to offer." Or, and see the horses for themselves, they know we're not telling them porky pies."

As all too many owners have

discovered down the years, impeccable breeding is never a guarantee of success on the track, Determination, though, often finds its reward, and there is no shortage of that at Coombelands. "I expect you'll be riding out three lots every day now, won't you, Dad?", Amanda says as her father enjoys his mid-morning coffee. "Well, you might get me on one," he answers. "Come on," she chides in return, "you know we don't employ part-timers here.

ASCOT .40: Large Action is a classy anima but he has not run for more than a year and must be at a fitness disadvantage with the likely favourite CASTLE SWEEP. The latter looked better than ever when surging clear of his rivals in a valuable event at Chepstow a fortnight ago and now be can strengthen his claims to be

Champion Hurdle contender Neither horse, though, would like the ground drying out any further,

3.10: Dancing Paddy usually per-



forms well on this track but would prefer mud. In contrast, this surface entirely suits STORM ALERE Adrian Maguire's mount held on well Big Matt bere earlier this month and is difficult to oppose.

3.40: With Romancer and a coupl of other early-paced sorts in this field, a fast-run contest is as The top weight is certainly to be feared but the pace will very much suit CHARMING GIRL. She disappointed when running too freely on her reappearance here three weeks ago, but her trainer Oliver Sherwood says he will be fitting her with a new bit today to help Jamie with a new bit today to help Jamie Osborne hold her up for a late chal-lenge, Executive Design, who has had a recent rup on the Flat, is a big danger, Mary Reveley's four-year-

ASCOT: HYPERION 2.40 Castle Sweep 1.35 Random Harvest 2.10 Flying Gunner 3.10 Storm Alert 3.40 CHARMING GIRL (nap) GODNG: Good (Good to Firm in places).

Right-hand course with testing upbill finish.

Course is nr junction of A229 and A230. Station adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 1816 (Comice Members 18-25 years, ball price): Grandsmand & Paddock 210; Silver Ring 23. GAR PARKS No's 1, 2 & 3 54, remainder free. M LRADING TRAINERS WITH BUNNERS: N Twiston-Device - 15 whereis from 90 run

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: N WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None LONG-DESTANCE EUNINEES: Palacogine Eng (3.40) has been sens 344 unites by A Whitims

100 TRAVELLING THE TURF RACECOURSE OF THE YEAR CON-DITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 added

BETTING: 5-2 Rengitivel, Regist Pursuit, 4-1 Royal Batron, 7-1 Chief Gale, 19-1 Addiox, One More - Man, 12-1 Selection.

1995: Lively Milight 8 10 13 1 Aspet 5-4 () Giffort) 8 per - FORMI GUIDDE.

PARMICITING got off the mark at Market Rasen in the last of four bumper runs in 1995-96 and, offer a fourth behind Laket Market Rasen in the last of four bumper runs in 1995-96 and, offer a fourth behind Laket Market has word bump for the Livestration appears the Durach.

and, efter a fourth behind Lake (latter at Chesstow on his nurding bow, justiced fewords back at the Lincoinshire venue though he would have finished only second except for Duraino topping over at the final flight. He followed up under 12st in a novice handicap at Townester, beating his Poppleton set lengths enting up. There is probably botter self in come from Charles Mann's charge and the longer distance will self. Regal Persuit, 20 lengths clear of the third when beaten five lengths by Accto Meld at Plumpton in February on the

fest of two outings over britiser last term, came home by 20 lengths on her respicerance at the same course last month. Nick Henderson's numer is also open to suprovement, Royal Rawan, numer-up to Gaye Fame at Fortivell last March, has not been out since but Joak Gafford can be relied upon to produce him fit and the five-year-old will have been well schooled. Chief Gade will be the better for his jumping debut behind Sounds. Like at Hereford and the longer trip will be a help.

Selection: RANGITIKE

1.35 CHARLES DAVIS NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C)

1995: Does Dienus 8 11 12 R Outwoody 7-2 (K Belloy) 5 nm . . FORM GUIDE

Bischouse Boy was a docent staying novice funder last term, sociong times tripes and stricting lifth behind Undande in the Sun Aliance Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festivel while he would up with a third to Pleasure Strand at Airmon. The sh-year-old will have benefited from his first run over forces when last of three behind See More Business at Chepstow and he looks certain to be winning before long. However, he is on 12st in his first handicap and his a tought task conceding 166 to BALLYLEA BOY. David Nacholaon's runner made his serving debut in a hendicap over signify further at Towester eight days ago and, despite his lack of septiments, made it a winning one, jumping well and railying parely to pip Antonney Chef a note. The selection can only progress with that effort under his bet and is possed for a follow-up off a 5th higher raring. Mony-Stop tended his first two races this term, at Wettiedly and Challenham, where he survived a bed bunder, and he rain very well when third to Pleasure Shared and Around The Gale at Wordsster. He gets Tib from Bohylog Boy and tooks they around the Around The Gale at Wordsster. He gets Tib from Bohylog Boy and tooks they around the Mandison Harriest had the remember a long way in arrease when bestern a couple of lengths by the useful Potter's Boy (a statemate of Balylee Boy) over an extended two and a helf miles at Wetherby and val be suited by the step-up in distapce.

210 SCUDAMORE CLOTHING 0800 301 301 NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 added 3m

_		(distance of solution distance dist
1	2532-21	FLYING GUIDNER (13) (D) (R Maryon Green) O Nicholson 5 11 3
2	254-1	MYWEND'S (13) (Uplands Bloodstack) C Brooks 6 11 3 6 Bradley
3		ASHLEY HOUSE (16) (B P Harringho) 8 R Millioan 7 10 11
4	43442-1	CAROLES CRUSADER (22) (Mrs C Skoworth) D Candido 5 10 12
5	4634-23	CHARLE PARROT (13) (Ms Alkon CFerant) M Poe 810 11
6		COOLE CHERRY (Mrs. L. Field) C Remet 6 10 12 B Festion
7	3-24282	DACELO (FIO (10) EIF) (B Harris) D Sterwood 5 10 12
8	0204-2	JET 2075 (13) (The Jet Stationary Company) Mrs. J Pleman 8 10 12
9		MEL (335) (Mrs Rt. Haduns) R Buckler 8 10 12 B Powell

Select routine 5 to 12 / Distorre 7-1 (I) Shemood 9 ran
Findia Guipe
Fiying Gumer should again take care of Jet Boya (5th better), whom he delected easily by
eight langers over this distance at Chepsony two weeks ago but he might not best CAROLE'S CRUSADER, who inched him out at Suration (2m 61 1.10 yth before that. They meet
on the same terms. Carole's Crusader, who was appearing for the first time since April then,
will improve and site goes for this in preference to the opener, Mywellow's well find this tougher
than when he scored at Unionater (2m) on his jumper debut the weeks ago but should propass.
Kim Bulley's hunding recent, Supreme Chema, winner of bumpers at Silgo in June and at
Bellowsown the following mornts, will know he new job. Selection; CAROLE'S CRUSADER

2.40 COOPERS & LYBRAND ASCOT HURDLE (CLASS BEC2 A) (Grade 2) £25,000 added 2m 4f

1996: Large Action 7 11 0 J Osborns 6-15 (O Shewood 5 am FORM QUIDE

Large Action ran third to Pistary Dove in the 1994 Champion Hundle and finished namerup behind Alderbrook last year. He was far from impressive when making a winning tentong
debut at 7-2 on at Unawater last November and makes, his first appearance since lending
debut at 7-2 on at Unawater last November and makes, his first appearance since lending
debut at 7-2 on at Unawater last November and makes, his first appearance since lending
debut at a popular plant of the following month. All is now well with Oliver Sherwood's charge
but, in what promises to be trulling butlie, he should find the up-and-coming CASTLE SWIEED
poo good. Successful in a Limench burpper in 1994-85, the Costle Keep as-year-old langed a smiller race at Newton Abbot on his British debut and chalked up a hundles hat-trick
before running third to indefence in the Suprame Novice Hundle and to Tragic Hero at Ambries, where he found the course bio sharp. Castle Swieep, despite misches at each of the
last two flights, trotted up by 10 lengths on his handicap debut in the Tote Silver Trophy at
Chepstor two weeks ago, dater which he attracted Champion Hundle support. Muse, who
sinished a 32-length fifth at the Welsh track, has a stone pull but is again fliely to get a near
went of the selection. The promoted Trumph Hundle second Mistriaguett won at Newbury
on her opening outing this term but flooped when favourite and only fourth to Dreams End
at Wincarinon. The fifty should get this longer journey but whether she can cope with Castle
Sweep getting only the 5th sex ollowance is another matter. Selection: CASTLE SWEEP

3.10 GERRARD AND NATIONAL HANDICAP CHASE BBC2

.....M Wigham 8

old progressed well last season. 4 32115-1 CALLISOE BAY (22) (D) (R Waters) O Sherwood 7 11-4 Johnson D Patrick Street (10) (D) (45r, C A Leves Jones) P Routed 9 10 0 Sherwood 9 10 0 Sherwood

STORM ALERT landed the United House Construction Handigap Chase for the third time when narrowly accounting for Big Maxt on his reappearance over course and distance times weeks ago. He goes off only a 3th higher mark today, Storm Alert was not himself when taxounte and tasted off last of four finishers to Coulton hero in Apail and, judged from his katest effort, should turn that form around with the four-length that, Darcing Paddy, who has won over fences and huttles here. With Sound Reveille likely to need the race and Spinning Steel 20th wrong in the weights, second spot can go to Callboo Bay, Oner Shermood's seven-year-old has not quate developed into the smart chaser though he did score three times in 1995-96 and also at Stortford on his return, beguing Southampton a couple of lengths under 12st. Callisoe Bay gets Bib from Storm Alert but, is not the solest of tencers and these obstacles take some jumping.

Solections STORM ALERT

3.40 LADBROKE TRIAL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) BBC2 1 150322- ROMANCER (263) (D) (M Archer & Mes J Broadhurst) N Twe 2 23514F ROMESPOLD PET [13] (D) Gibes of the late Mr G E Myd M Naytes 7 12 10 ... D Skyrme
3 02-43.44 MON VMITAGE [13] (D) (Alan Marri) M Dagmen 5 12 6 ... W Worthington
4 154112 - BECHITY DESIGN (210) (D) (T Foder) Mrs M Revely 4 11 3 ... P Niveo
5 01120-4 CHARRIMS GRIX (DSA) (20) (D) (DF) (C Open) O Shewrood 5 11 2 ... P Ophome
6 10010-4 PM 11 33 (D) MRS R I, Hasting R Bustane 8 11 0 ... B Fowel
7 0413-3 GROURD MR (13) (D) MRS R I, Hasting R Bustane 8 11 0 ... B Proved
8 02253-3 CHOOLGOLD (FR) (ES) (D) (SF) (D A JANESON) M Pipe 5 10 12 ... A P McCoy
9 20643-3 CHOOLGOLD (FR) (ES) (D) (SF) (D A JANESON) M Pipe 5 10 12 ... A P McCoy
10 F60-642 SHOOFK (20) (Sean Dewict S Dow 5 10 3 ... B Dusecody
11 46 SOVERBIGNS FARMOE (2003) (D) (Commond Toron) M Heruseson 4 10 2 ... M A Ruspine
11 declared
BETTING: 11-2 Charming GAT, Executive Densign, 8-1 Cadongold, 13-2 Rotroscer, 7-1 Ground Mat,
Sovereigns Farmos, 8-3 Marks, Soport, 11-1 Mont Wintage, 14-1 Kingsfeld Pet, 16-1 Palaccepton Mag,
1995: Non Versign 4 10 0 W Worthington 10-1 M Chapman 11 ma

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

EXECUTIVE DESIGN, who had a pipe opener on the Pair at Doncaster two weeks ago, should give a good run. Many Revoley's runner scored three times last term, including a nowce hand-kep at Newcastle in March, wholing up with a one-and-a-quarter second to Marchant Ming at Perth. Romaneer's or 12st and lasts a recent race out high I fivision Danies' produced him fit enough to win the Free Handcap Hurdle at Chepstow first time up last term and the five year-old could go close. Romancer's last roce was a three-length second of a buge field behind Star Rage in the County Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival with Non Vintage more than three lengths admit in third and Shoofk way behind. Non Vintage, who has a 4th put, could manage only fourth in both his stars since a Mancet Rasen success early last morth. Natiots fixed Cheminals Girl, Non Vintage and Palsecagates fitting in amens when third to fing it Hero at Haydock in May and ran as though in need of the lase when third to Direct Route at Wetherby on his crum. Cadousgold and Ground Nut will have come on for their opporing runs when third to Mouse Bird at Newton Abbot and to Direams End at Wincanton, respectively, white Charmang Girl will be fineer for her fourth to Saver Groom here on hor return and can reverse running with Shoofk, (an eight-length second). Selections DECUTIVE DESIGN

SOUTHWEST TO BE S HYPERION

12.00 Chadleigh Lane 12.30 Shortaine 1.00 Pala gate Jack 1.30 Best Of All 2.00 6-Harry 2.30 Legal Issue 3.00 Head Giri 3.30 Compass Pointer GOING: Standard

STALLS: 51, 1m 01 - outside; remainder - braide. BEAW ADVANTAGE: None. History ALVANTAGE: None.

If Phresand surfact; left-hand sharp, oval course.

Course is 3m SE of town and 5m W of Newark. Reflecton function adjours course. ADMISSION: Club S12: Tatterialis S6 (OAP members of course's Dismond Clob S4, accompanied under-16s free). GAE PARK: Free.

SIS BLINEERSD FIRST TIME: Summer Princess (visored, 2.30), Royal Romotte (2.00), Diamonda Are (visored, 2.00). Roulette (3.00), Diamondo Are (visored, 3.00).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Kahar (1.00) won at Lingfield on Friday; Eroadou (2.00) won at Souttwell on Monday.

LONG-DESTANCE EUNNERS: Anachdoleck Judge (1.30) has been agen 253
miles by A McKeller from Lesmahagow, Stratichylor, Exampleditiskin (2.30)
sent 215 miles by H Howe from Califordirioige, Devon; Ennet Shan (12.00),
Galacia (1.30) & Einsterinf Parital (3.00) sent 183 miles by W Tumer from
Cornot Denlum, Somerus; Barana Mise (12.00). Time Clash (12.20) & Bopperetta (2.00) sent 180 miles by B Palling from Vstradowen, South Gianorgan; Cool Grey (3.00) sent 167 miles by J J O'Neill from Stehton Wood End,
Cumbris.

12.00 RIVER IDLE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV 1) £2.950 added 1m (AW) to (7) 12 USSESD ANGUS (17 W MW 3 8 1.5 CSOGSO UNDWINTERSCURADRIA (RD) M Bleby 4 8 1.3 14006 NORTH ARDAR (LB) (CD) T WW 6 8 1.1 555304 CHADLEIGH LINE (2.1) (CD) R Holinsheid 4 8 9 143611 EUTON LEDGER (LID) (C) (RF) MIS N MISCALLY 7 8 9 A College 10 A Flook 11 65 RUBY ANCIEL (11) H Candy 36 D 14 0000-00 EMEI SHAN (B) W Turner. 3 7 10

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BESTRIC: 5-2 foreign's Wise, 5-1 Elter Ludjar, 5-1 Chesleign Lane, 7-1 Munich's Grundle, 18-1 North Arige, Ruby Angel, 12-1 others 12.30 FARMERS WEEKLY HANDICAP STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £2,950 added 7f (AW) | CLASS F) (DIV I) 22,950 act |
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| SSO03 SHORTARE (8) (S) M JOYRES 3 9 13 |
| 3-0000 BEN GURB (27 (D) P Wallys 4 9 12 |
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| SC2000 SHIFFEN ROCKS (SPA) (S6) Capt J Warrior 3 9 8 | __D Holland & D Colleges (6) 5 9 منشون لـــــ & Caster 2 Y 12 0300 TREAM BAY (80) TO Baron 39.3 12 003000 TREAM CLU 8 Paint 39.3 13 10/0000 Impendo (15) I Cuiren 5 8 2 Victoria Appleby (77 6. 14 - 560000 REEM FEVER (32) D Attulmot 3 9 0 ..

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1.00 TRENT APPRENTICES' HANDICAP STAKES (CLASS 6) £3,000 added 5f (AW)

1.30 RIVER IDLE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £2,950 added 1m (AW) 005202 BEST OF ALL (11) (D) J Berry 4 9 2 ANCHOLECK JUDGE R McKeler 3

2.00 GRAND UNION NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS E) 54,200 added 2YO 6F (AW) 215405 SESSET COMES (22) (D) P Makin 97...

014 SHERZETTO (102) (0) D Chemisin 6 10... 3043 KOMASON (155) Capi J Wilson 8 7... 00054 VELAGE PUB (11) K Carningfan-Brown 1 231210 C-NVSRY (22) (0) R Holimined 8 4

... D Holland 1P McCabe (3) 12 6 Carter 13 E Wigitam 3S D Williams 7 "J Quám 6 S. _D Holland 11. _G Durind 9 C Dayer 8
S D Williams 8G Carles 4 Mortin Duyer (5) 14 Angela Hartley (7) 5 _F (yezh (3) 10P (Castery (6) 15 HETTHE: 9-2 Area, 11-2 Excelor, 6-1 Catria, 8-1 Polite Descent 10-1 Strat's Quest, 12-1 CHarry, Exchanting Eve, 14-1 others

2.30 FARMERS WEEKLY HANDICAP STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV II) £2,950 added 7f (AW) 600000 ENCORE M'LADY (20) (0) F Leo 5 10 0. 425400 SAGEBRISH ROLLER (13) (0) J W WEIS 8 10 0. 020432 STATISTICAN (8) John Bery 4 9 13. 560300 SQUARE DEAL (18) (20) S Bowing 5 9 11. ...P McCahe (5) 1 000001 LEIGH CHOFTER (LL) (D) POUNDE 797 (604). "F Lynch (3) 060500 CRAIGIE BOY (30) N Brook 5 9 1 Ouine 1 11 DUDOUG CHARLE BOY (244) (103) N BISCOR 6 9 1 ...
2 4-50500 ERONY BOY (244) (103) N BISCOR 6 9 1 ...
3 653202 THE BARNSLEY BELLE (18) J L Eve 3 9 0 ...
4 5-60000 INTER-SPREY (4) A Hame 4 8 13 ...
15 0000 STABLES PROJESS (4) A Shroter 3 8 12 ...
18 600-000 RAPPER POINT (23) C Marray 5 8 11 ... - 10 declared -BETTING: 13-2 Statisticine, 7-1 The Barmacy Balls, 8-1 Leigh Crotter, Segebrush Roller, Night Harmany, 10-1 Excess MTLady, Craige Bay, Legal Issue, 12-1, others

3.00 SEVERN FILLIES SELLING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 added 270 7f (AW) 505300 COMPACT DISC (17) M Johnston 89.... 06 COOL GREY (18) J J O'Neil 8 9..... 55 DIAMOND EYRE (18) J L Eyre 8 9..... D Suponey (7) 10 V Dean McKeowe 10 _A Check

11 0004. RACHIE CARR (18 T.) Nazgimi 8 9.
13 06030 ROVAL ROULETTE (20) 5 Woods 8 9.
14 SHOWGES, Capt / Wison 8 9.
15 300500 THEWRISKYONE (15) 9 Oktoyd 8 9. _ I D Smith (5) 13D Biggs 4 BS D Williams 5 .M McAndrew 11 8 BETTINE 5-2 Head Girl, 9-2 Electrical Paristi, 5-1 Royal Roslette, 6-1 Compact Disc, 10-1 Racing Corr, 12-1 Dismood Eye, 14-1 others

KANHERINE J Finger 8 9.

3.30 CUCKMERE HANDICAP STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 added 1m 8f (AW)Klen Tinkter 2 8 ____D Sweezey (7) 3 ____ Wilduston (7) 10 020042 COMPASS PORTER (LLC) | Euclase 3.9 B. Martin Duyer (5) 13 6-00053 OUR MADI MAN (7) R Whister 6.8.5..... 51060U MR SPECULATOR (15) J Series 3.8.13.... _A Cohene 12 8 401260 DRAMA KING (LL) 5 Bouring 4 8 13 _____ 9 50-0401 PREP D DAY (LIS) 1 L Eye 5 8 12 _____ 1D 0004040 APPEARANCE MONEY (241) F Murphy 5 8 8 _

12 0-40406 TABLETS OF STONE (11) J Bosley 3 8 1 ... 13 60-6000 BOLD JOYER (128) G Olony 6 5 7 10.....D Westey (5) 4 Marjanan seiger, 7st 10to, True Hambap seight: Bold John 7st 7to. BETTING: 7-2 Code Red, 4-1 Our Halm Nam, 9-2 Page D Day, 5-1 Continue Ford er, 10-1 Tagatay, Drawn King, 13-1 Classic Romance, 14-1 Offices

12 00-601 TACKTAY (115) M Camacho 38 3.

Snow claimed its second victim in a week when yesterday's fixture at Sedgefield was called off shortly after an 11am inspection. John Cleverly, the clerk of the course, said: "The meeting has had to be abandoned because of snow. We can't get rid of it because it is too cold."

AINTREE HYPERION 1.10 Penrose Lad 1.45 Supertop 2.20 Wheat Fettle (nb) 2.50 Sarmation 3.20 Baronet 3.50

GODNG: Good (Good to Firm in places).

Right hand course with tight turns.

Course is north-cast of city, one mile from the M57 on the A29 Amere station (served by Liverpool, Lime St) adjoins course: AD-MISSION: County Stand 5.14, Tattercolls S7, CAR PARK: Pre-booked 55, Tance-sills Ince. SIS RACING CHARNEL

BLINKERED PIEST TIME: None. WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DATS: Sermethen (2.50) won at Avr on Saturday.

LONG DISTANCE EUNNERS: Lawbeater (1.45) has been sent
230 miles by Mrs R Henderson from Folly Gate, Devon.

1.10 SOUTHPORT NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 2m 110yds - 10 doctored -BETTING: 7-4 Ponyons Lad, 7-2 Tremendisto, 8-1 Three Wild Days, Ster Master, 10-1 Mr Ciristie, 12-1 Seguin, 14-1 others

1.45 LYDIATE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,500

Minimum weight 10st True handbap weight Curnigh Peter Sci Sib SETTRICE 2-1 Separtop, 9-4 Killbally Boy, 4-1 Eta Man Howa, 9-2 Auntile Alice, 14-1 Lawkester, 16-1 Carnigh Peter

2.50 CROSTON LANGENBERGER HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £6,000 2m 110yds mum wegnt: 10st. True handicap weight: Hawson 9st 13to, Pridewoo MNG: 8-5 Chai-Yo, 7-2 Samudao, 5-1 Done Well, 8-1 Indian Jockey. I Pridewood Picker, 16-1 lüng Albeistad, Hansvatt

2.20 JOHN PARRETT MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £10,000 3m 1f

3.20 LIVERPOOL NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) 2011-1 P. DATON SHIELD STATE TO SHIELD STATE STA BETTING: 2-7 Baronet, 5-1 Siona

3.50 WEATHERBYS 'STARS OF TOMORROW' OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £2,500

2m 110yds 2rm J1Oyds

J-WRP HAND (69) | FicSerald 5 11 11 | Jan | January |

J-WRP HAND (69) | FicSerald 5 11 11 | January |

D-CASHEL QUAY (289) MY P Beterzen 6 12 4 | Gey Levie (2)

D-DASHARTI (246) 0 Nicholson 5 12 4 | R Massey (3)

FREST LIGHT (28) | Quart 4 11 4 | R January (3)

FROM FROM HOME (62) | J Orivit 4 12 4 | A Rocha (2)

GOOD VRESS (13) | Easterny 4 11 4 | Whyt (4)

LOOK (6) THE MIRROR (6) N Festin-Doves 5 11 42 Subben (7)

MACTS SUPPEMET HAMPH 4 11 4 | W Down

HEADOW HOME | FotSerald 5 11 4 | W Down

HIGHT ESCAPADE (41) C Meetin 4 10 13 | M Richards

- 11 dockared -

1.1 declared ## 15 declared ## 15

Long faces over Funny

the running to win the fourth woody, by two lengths. clear lead at the start.

While the 4-5 favourite and the two other runners daw-thinking about it and it dled, Dascombe immediately worked." dled. Dascombe immediately gained a 15-length lead. Mor-

Supporters of the heavily backed stock (3-1) tired badly in the Phar From Funny failed to see closing stages but still held off any joke at Wincanton yesterday the fast-finishing Phar From after his rival Morstock made all Funny, ridden by Richard Dun-

race. Morstock's jockey, Tom
Dascombe, was able to take a "We stole it!" Ivor Hodges, the trainer's brother, said, "The plan was to try and pinch a hig lead while the others were still

Yesterday's results, page 31



Sport

BAF forced to regroup after jostling at the bell

MIKE ROWBOTTOM

ted its detailed bid for Nationdid not take kindly to the recent

accusation it had false-started.
After hearing last week's longawaited Sports Council announcement on Lottery funding letic Federation's executive chairman, remarked ruefully that the seemed more appropriate.

er sport in this country, will almost certainly have to wait until March to get its hands on British athletics, which submitany money from the £40m World Class Performance al Lottery funding a year ago, scheme. It will be nice when it happens. But, in the meantime, there are a lot of athletes

"Most of the first year of the next four-year Olympiad will for people rather than buildings.
Peter Radford, the British Athbeginning to make a difference to athletes in the field," Tony Ward, the BAF spokesman, said. image of being jostled at the bell "There is a feeling of frustration, hecause people like Angie

Thorp, Iwan Thomas, Jamie es of £256,000 in 1995 and has many of our athletes are young, lanta. "The sport felt that by the Baulch and Ian Mackie need to suffered double that this year, in their early twenties, and are time the athetics started in Alstart preparing for next summer's

There is brighter and more immediate news in the offing, with a new four-year TV deal with Channel 4 on the verge of completion. A record four-year kit sponsorship hy Reehok, worth £1m a year, gives British athletics further reason to be cheerful in the medium as well as the long term and two more companies are renewing their backing for televised meetings. It all points to brighter times for the BAF, which reported loss-

Channel 4 are to show meetings next year after ITV's decision to end a 12-year association amid

and we are on the brink of a new immediately," Ward said. The best news for us is,

whichever channel comes in, it will be a four-year contract. That gives us a stability we haven't had for four years. The same thing applies in the Reebok deal. "It reflects the fact that so

RAC RALLY: Scottish motorsport's rising talent has been groomed for the big time. Derick Allsop reports

going to be making an impact for the next four to five years.

"It is all encouraging but you complaints of below parevents. have to put it into the context "We have been in discussions of recent losses. Three quarters with Channel 4 and the BBC of a million pounds is a large chunk out of our reserves, and deal which will be announced we have to press ahead with restructuring. Even with these latest sponsorships, we are well short of the annual income of £5-6m in our haleyon days."

The latest plans have been laid during difficult times, following the widespread criticism of Britain's performance in Atlanta the media - especially those who did not travel out there - had concluded it was going to be a bad Olympics," Ward said, whereas we believe our record

in athletics was average to good."

Once the TV deal is announced, probably next week, the federation will allocate venues for next year's fixtures. This season's outdoor total of six main televised events is likely to be reduced by one or two to counter criticism that the quality of domestic meetings had been diluted last year.

The only fixed point right now is the combined world championship trials and AAA Champinnships, in Birmingham from 12-14 July. Locations still have to be established for the two major meetings, the IAAF Grand Prix I and II events.

The biggest decision con-cerns the flagship Grand Prix at Crystal Palace, the subject of an ownership battle between the BAF and their South of England AA. It could result in the meeting switching to Sheffield or Gateshead, with Sheffield's 25,000 capacity at the Don Valley Stadium making it favourite.

Barbarian Kiwis vie for Test places

Rugby Union DAVID LLEWELLYN

They may be the New Zealand Barbarians in name, but John Hart's squad, who are over here for a two-match tour, are All Blacks to the core.

While the All Blacks coach insists that winning is not everything, there is little doubt that the uncapped players in the party will want to prove a point or two to

the New Zealand selectors. There are a number of players who have yet to establish their Test credentials, among them Joeli Vidiri, a Fijian who will not be qualified to wear an All Blacks jersey until 1998. Vidiri plays on the wing and has been likened to Jonah Lomu. Lomu gets first bite along with Glen Osborne for the wing position when the tourists play the North of England at the Mc-Alpine Stadium in Huddersfield

on Sunday.
The stand-off Andrew Mehrtens, the All Blacks' prodigious goal-kicker, joins Vidiri on the bench, with Auckland's Carlos Spencer taking over the No 10

David Campese could yet add to his century of caps for Australia despite being left out of the team to face Ireland in Duhlin tomorrow. The wing was yesterday named as one of the replacements for the Lansdowne Road encounter and could be called into action either as a tactical substitute or if Jason Little or Joe Roff get injured.

Llanelli have paid the Western Samoan tourists a compli-ment by fielding seven internationals in their side for tomorrow's match at Stradey Park.

The Scarlets are, however, without the No 8, Chris Wyatt, who is on Wales Sevens duty in Dubai, and they give a rest to their front row of Spencer John, Rohin McBryde and Rhys Jones in addition to the flanker

Mark Perego. Llanelli have angered Ebbw Vale by postponing their 30 November league match as both Ieuan Evans and Wayne Proctor are included in the Welsh squad to meet Australia the fol-

SQUEGIO DECEL PAISTRAIN INC TOI-IOWING GAY.

LIANELL (* Western Samon, Stradey Park, tenterrow; W Proctor; I Evans, (Expt).

T Daves, N Boobyer, G Evans; F Botton, R Monr. R Evans, J Hyett, H Williams- Jones, V Cooper, S Ford, H Jerkans, P Morris, I Jones, (Replacements to be named).

NEW ZEALAND BARRARARANS (* North of England, Huddersfold, Sandays): C Cullen (Marswettu), & Ouborne (Morth Harbour), A levespin (Weilington), L Shemmens, Apockland).

England, Hudderstei (Manawatu), G Onbor Jeresula (Wellington), L A Bitowers (all Auckland), A Broute, II Millot, A Bitowers (all Auckland), T Randolf (Cogn). A Retarbas i Cantarbunyi, M Robbinson (North Hardour), M Randoy, C Dawle (Original Auckland), M Collins (Walesto), A Other (Origin), I Jones-

James Craig helped himself to 31 points, with five tries and three conversions, while Scott Nicol collected 25 points through a hat-trick of tries and five conversions as Scotland crushed Zamhia 87-0 in their opening qualifying match of the World Cup Sevens in Dubai yesterday. Earlier, Wales humbled Singapore 77-0, with all seven players in the Welsh team scoring tries. Jonathan Davies, the former rugby league international, scored two tries and kicked six conversions. He scored two more tries and landed three conversions in Wales' second match, a 31-14 win over

McRae to keep it in the family

Fending off the rest of the just got to keep trying my best Formula Two runners and and, if I get the chance to making an impression on the heavyweights in the Network Q RAC Rally would be enough to exercise the skill and concentration of any driver. The driver of car No 10. however, knows he must also compete with the phantom of

the forests. Scotland's Alister McRae has prepared for the threeday rally, which starts in Chester tomorrow, like any other event: testing, receing. plotting and testing again. Unlike any other entrant, he will be judged against a man not taking part - his hrother

Alister, the younger sibuncomplainhe'd got big ing member of the supporting cast wheel tracks to when Colin drive in, after our won the RAC and with it even bigger ones' But will the World Championship. Alister's

fourth place went virtually unrecognised in the euphoria

of a British triumph. This time the rally does not count towards the overall World Championship standings, and the older McRac is missing from the line-up. That presents Alister with the opportunity to bear the standard for family and coun-

It is a challenge he accepts philosophically, just as Colin did when he first ventured our in the wake of their father. Jimmy, a stalwart of the ral-

Alister, 25, said: "Colin thought he'd got hig wheel tracks to drive in after our father, hut now I've got even bigger ones to follow.

It can be a help having a famous name to start with, but then once you are in you've got to prove yourself, and for the last couple of years I've

prove myself on the world scene, I'm sure I can come out of his shadow."

An impact in the RAC might hasten the course of that ambition. McRae drives a new two-litre Volkswagen Golf GTi 16V and primarily is meent on beating the rest in his formula class. But he is eager also to join a pack he expects to he tracking Juha Kankkunen's Toyota Celica.

"I need to get a good result for Volkswagen," he said. "If I win Formula Two, it would probably do more good than coming fourth overall last year. But if I'm leading For-

overail,

wouldn't be

ruas well, I

'Colin thought very happy. would hope father. I've got about sixth

any achievement count for much in an event seemingly devalued this year? McRae argues it would. "The competition is still go-

ing to be very strong," he said. competing here. "There's the higgest Formula Two entry of any World Championship rally this season, with Seat. Renauls and Skoda fighting for the title, and tough opposition from Ford and Nissan. And then you've got names such as Kankkunen and Armin Schwarz, and I'd be surprised

if Kankkunen didn't win. "All right, so it won't be the same without Colin and Carlos Sainz fighting out the championship, but there's still going to he an awful lot of quick drivers. It's still going to he tough, it's still going to be exciting and, above all, it's still

going to be the RAC. "I'm sure we'll still have huge crowds out there because the RAC has such an been in Colin's shadow. I've amazing appeal and the fans



Alister McRae: I need to get a good result for Volkswagen. If I win Formula Two, it would probably do more good than coming fourth overall last year. But if I'm leading Formula Two and not in the top 10 overall, I wouldn't be happy' Photograph: Peter Jay

the home drivers, because there's no doubt you do feel it

"It's not going to give you'a second a mile, but it's got to give you the confidence, the fight and the will to go quick, knowing all those people are behind you. I saw what it was like for Colin last year. Just fantastic."

McRae hopes to gather further World Championship experience next year with a view to securing a full programme for the 1998 season and renewing boyhood rivalry with his broth-

'If I didn't feel I could do as well as Colin, I wouldn't stick ar it," he maintained. "Anything we've done up to now hikes or whatever, it's always been very close between us. He's just heaten me or I've just beaten

"It's hard to compare drivers and their styles. The only com-

in this country are real enthu- parison that matters is the times seeking his fourth victory in the siasts. It's particularly good for at the end of the stage. What I RAC rally. would say is that I've not had as

> many accidents as Colin," he added with a grin. British interest is concentrated on the Formula Two contest, with Wales' perennial challenger Gwyndaf Evans, driving a Ford Escort RS2000, providing an obvious threat to anyone with aspirations in the category. Robbie Head (Renault) and Mark Higgins (Nis-

Martin Brundle, on a Formula One-man's holiday, has se-riously competitive "first division" kit in the Ford Escort Cosworth. He must measure himself against the likes of ful rally driver of all time.

san) ought to be in contention

The 37-year-old Finn has won 20 World Championship Partnered by the Welshman Nicky Grist, Kankkunen is minary and romantic.

Kankkunen's opposition will come from the other drivers steering Toyota's rehabilitation after serving a one-year ban for technical offences, namely Schwarz and Ian Duncan, and the leading Ford runners Jarno Kytolehto and Ari Vatanen. And back there, in the 190-

strong field, deep in the mud and trees, will be the usual mix of would-be champions and unabashed enthusiasts, all living out their dreams. In line with recent tradition, the spectator stages are being held on the Sunday, which is the second day this year, and by then sterner tests may have taken their toll.

The drivers get down to the real business straight away, on the unforgiving tracts of Kielder and the other northern territories, so those massed events and the title four times. Sunday galleries might well he deprived a glimpse of many a lu-

RAC Rally Special stage -START/ FINISH 7.30 Leeds Royal 17.45 Chester recepuise Log 2 Sun 24 Nov

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Football

7.30 unless stated NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION Shoffleld Utd v Bolton (7.45) THIRD DIVISION Chester y Colches

ter (7.30) . HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE OF IRE Dundale 17-45.
UNIDET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE John
Cun first-round replay: East

Rugby Union

7.30 unless stated REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Vistor Under 21 v New Zealand Under 21 17 Octor Rownwall. CLUB MATCHES: Ackeens v Old Collectus (7.0); Bedfard v Northampton, Benn Hall v Stroud (7.0); Coventry v Bath; Lercester v Loughborough Students (7.45).

Other sports RADAMINITON: Scottish Open (Glasgow)



Doull launches the Kiwi counter-attack

Cricket

New Zealand 155; Pakistan 52-5

The New Zealand pace bowler Simon Doull launched a stunning fightback against Pakistan on a dramatic opening day of the first Test in Lahore yesterday. Doull took 4 for 21 in seven overs as Pakistan, who earlier dismissed the Kiwis for 155. slumped from 21 for no wicket

to 52 for 5 when bad light halt-

ed play 10 overs early. For New Zealand it was a spectacular turnaround from the opening two sessions. After winning the toss and batting. they struggled to recover from a poor start, which saw openers Bryan Young and Justin Vaughan back in the pavilion with Io

on the board. The innings was hriefly revived by a third-wicket stand of 51 between Adam Parore and Stephen Fleming. But New Zealand crumbled after lunch, losing their last seven wickets for 88, Waqar Younis taking 4 for 48 and Mushtaq Ahmed 4 for 59. The last-wicker pair, Dipak Pa-

lel and Doull, added 38. Pakistan, whose captain Wasim Akram was missing because of a sore shoulder, started their collapse when Doull bowled the stand-in captain Saced Anwar

for eight with the total on 21.

They then lost ljaz Ahmed.

lbw to Chris Cairns. Pakistan's woes continued with the dismissal of Inzamamul-Hag, hrilliantly taken at third slip without scoring by Nathan Astle off Doull. Three runs later dehutant Zahoor Elahi was caught by Fleming at first slip for Four balls later Doull picked up his fourth wicket when Mohammad Wissim, also winning his first cap, played on for a duck.

First date from Sewand wort loss

NEW ZEALAND — Pirst limitings
B A Young too b Watart Young,
I T C Voughton how is Stand Raper — 8
I T C Voughton how is Stand Raper — 3
A C Parone o Salem Male to Mustron America — 37
S P Pichting C Salem Male to Mustron America — 19
N I Assie Rob to Mustron Ahmed — 19
N I Assie Rob to Mustron Ahmed — 19
N I Construction is Kennymouth-Karp Mustron Ahmed — 4
C L Lams o Encomposit-Karp Mustron Ahmed — 16
C S Halling to Males it Young — 16

Fet: 1-6 2-16 3-67 4-70 5-73 6-83 7-102 8-Souling, Wasar Yours, 15-3-48-4; Stated Nazr 3-3-15-1; Musicag Ammed 22.1-4-59-4; Septem 8-3-15-1; Mushaga Ammod 27.1-4-55
Mushaga 12-3-24-1;
PAUSTAW - First immings
Socred Armor b Doud:
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Edition 10.1, nb.21
Tetral (Box 55)

atal (for 5) at: 1-21 2-29 3-34 4-37 5-37. Young, Shahid Napr.
Bowling Came 7-2-27-1 (nb2); Doul 7-2-21-4;
Hams 1-0-30.
Uspires, Shakoor Rana (Pak) and R Tiffin Cim).

De Villiers valiant with bat and ball

South Africa 202-8

The tail-enders Pat Symcox and Fanie de Villiers played rescuers with a half-century stand after South Africa collapsed against India's spin trio in the first Test in Ahmedahad yesterday.

Coming together with South Africa reeling at 119 for 7 in reply to India's first innings of 223. Symeox (32) and De Villiers (40) not out) pul on 63 for the eighth wicket to lead their side to 202 for 8 at the close on the second day.

Fine bowling by the left-arm spinner Sunil Joshi and the leg-spinners Anil Kumble and Narendra Hirwani, allied to two dubious umpiring decisions, raised Indian hopes of a useful first-innings lead. Joshi has taken 4 for 42, Kumble 2 for 68 and Hirwani 2 for 38.

India, resuming at the overnight 215 for 8, were bowled out for 223 within half an hour of the start of play. Allan Donald finished with 4 for 37 while fellow pace bowler De

Villiers took 2 for 55. The worst fears about the pitch at the Sardar Patel Stadium proved true when the Indian spinners came on after just

10 overs by the medium pacers The ball turned, especially from Joshi, though it was Kumble who sent back both openers, Andrew Hudson and the consistent left-hander Gary Kirsten.

Then came two controversial lbw dismissals. Umpire SK Bansal gave out captain Hansie Cronje and Darryl Cullinan lbw, both stretching well forward to halls that pitched outside the leg stump, with neither batsman offering a stroke. cond day: India won toss

N II Howars not out . Extras (109, nb3)

Bowling: Doruk 27-14-37-4; De Villers 18 5-55-2; McMalan 11-4-20-0; Chone 12-3-8 0; Adams 17-2-46-1; Symeox 21-5-48-2 SOUTH AFRECA - First lemines

8 M McMillian b Josh ... St. ymcox fow b Joshi ... A A Dómaid not put Extres (57, 168, nb1)... Feb: 1-29, 2-45, 3-49, 4-95, 5-102, 5-113, 7-119, 8-182.

To both P R Adams.
Sowling: Smooth 12-3
2-17-0; Kumble 28-5
4; Hinsani 15-3-38-2.

Way's desperate days

Golf

Paul Way's dramatic collapse from the heights of the Ryder Cup continued in Spain yesterday with an 81 in the opening round of the European Tour qualifying school.

The 33-year-old former Volvo PGA champion, forced to go hack to the school for the first time since 1981 after slumping to 158th on this year's Order of Merit, trailed in joint-last of the 93 players at San Roque, where Tasmania's Matthew Goggin leads on the five-under-par mark of 67.

course, Enfield's Brian Davis began his hid for one of the 40 Tour cards on offer with a superb seven-under-par 65 for a wo-stroke lead over Dorset's Martyn Thompson and Ben Tinning of Denmark. "It's a nightmare at the mo-

At the nearby Sotogrande

nent," said Way, a member of the Ryder Cup sides in 1983 and 1985. His last tournament victory was the European Open nine years ago, and in the last five months he has made just one halfway cut.

Now his future is on the line and he has left himself a mountain to climb after a round containing five bogeys, one double-bogey and a triple-bogey.

eighth. "My drive must have hit a cart path and gone out of hounds because we couldn't find it," he said.

"It's just ridiculous. I've lost my confidence and I don't know what's going on. There's not a lot I can say really. It's desperate stuff." Like Way, Scotland's Gordon

Sherry double-bogeyed the 428yard last after driving into water. But that was where the similarity ended. Sherry, a for-mer British amateur star, still returned a 69 to be joint third, two shots behind Goggin.
"I went for a hig one to try

to make another hirdie," cxplained the 22-year-old, who finds himself at the school after a miserable first season as a professional. He delayed turning professional to play in the US Masters in April, but in seven European Tour starts earned only £11.000.

The English cluh professionals Nick Brown and Joe Higgins were delighted just to tee off. What should have been a 20-minute journey to the course from the apartment they are sharing turned into an 80minute adventure they never want to repeat. Driver Brown missed the entrance to the San Roque club and they became lost, almost ending up in Gibral-

That came on the 471-yard tar. "I drove at 120mph overtaking everything (and this on the road known as "The Highway of Death") and Joe, who was due to tee off 10 minutes, after me, said: 'Don't kill us, it's

only a game of golf"." Brown then proceeded to "play great" before two late hogeys dropped him on to the oneover-par mark of 73. Higgins, a former travelling companion lan Woosnam, shot 75. Jack Nicklaus' son Gary and Bernard Gallacher's nephew Stephen both shot 72, while at San Roque the former Tour winners Gordon J Brand and Stephen McAllister both hit 71.

Scores, Digest, page 31

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mugh PEI 5T.

هكذا من الأصل

Becker

delivers

on home

territory

Boris Becker, roured oo by a

boisterous home crowd, served

24 aces to pull off a 7-6, 7-6 vic-

tory over the Pete Sampras at

the ATP Tour World Champi-

onship here yesterday. Becker, the defending cham-

pion, advanced to the semi-fi-

nals after bringing his record to

2-0 in the round-robin section. Sampras, like the German a

wo-time champion in the end-

of-season event, dropped to 1-1.

It was Becker's second victory

over Sampras within a month,

the German having beaten him

in the final of the Eurocard Open last month in Stuttgart.

Becker's win delayed Sampras

from becoming the fourth active player to register 500 career

NESHA STARCEVIC

reports from Hanover

ınds tos VIS hil iced

In the first set, Becker was the first in trouble and had to battle hard to avoid falling behind. He saved two break points in the second game, another in the fourth, and three more in the 10th, coming from behind 0-40 to turn the set his way. Sampras faced only one break point in the first set, in the third game. With the 15,000 capacity crowd in the Europe Hall stomping their feet and roaring

Becker on, Sampras screamed in frustration when Becker pulled even at deuce by hitting a winner on the line.

Sampras appeared on the way to evening the score when he hroke Becker for a 5-4 lead in the second, But he served two double-faults in the next game, fought off two break points and finally succumbed when Becker bit another low return that Sampras could oot get over the net. Becker again prevailed in the tie-break, bitting a spectacular backhand passing shot to clinch the match after

Earlier, the new, Samurai hairstyle of Goran Ivanisevic did not help him against Michael Chang, who rallied to outlast the Croat, 6-7, 7-6, 6-1. But the match was irrelevant for the tournament as Ivanisevic was already assured of a place in the semi-finals while Chang, last his first two matches and had no chance of advancing. Chang at least picked up \$100,000 for his

The other semi-finalist from that group will be known today, when Thomas Muster plays Richard Krajicek

Andre Agassi, booed off court after a dismal perfor-mance, was fined £30,000 for failing to appear at two preevent functions. ATP officials announced yesterday that Agassi, who pulled out of the rest of the tournament because of the illness, had been fined five per cent of his Tour prize money for the

In New York, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Conchita Martinez secured berths in the quarter-finals of the WTA Tour Championship at Madison Square Garden. The third-seeded Sanchez Vicario withstood the hard-serving Brenda Schultz-McCartby for a 6-4, 7-6 win and the fourthseeded Martinez overcame a sore left hamstring to survive a three-set scare against the lowest-ranked player in the

United eclipsed by **Boksic and Zidane**

GLENN MOORE

night the point was made that the French took little account of the form of their footballing exiles in England, preferring to Trafford, we understood why.

Eric Cantona may regard him-self as a prophet without honour In times past English efforts in his own country but he was comprehensively cotshone by Zinedine Zidane, who dominated the Champions' League tie even more completely than Cantona can a Premiership match.

After ooe interchange with Alen Boksic, ooe spectator moaned: "Why don't we have players like that?" He could

Porto to report Weah over 'clash' with Costa

Porto have complained to Uefa officials about an incident in which Milan's George Weah is. alleged to have head-butted the Portuguese champions' defender Jorge Costa after their bad-tempered Champions League game on Wednesday.

Jose Carlos Esteves, Porto's club doctor, said that Costa, who was shown on television after the game with blood streaming from his nose, would have to Wednesday won their instrument this level in 13 games when damage. "Costa was head-they beat Grasshopper 2-1. Rangers were already out of contractions of the contraction of the contr Esteves said.

scuffling in the tunnel at the end of the game, which ended in a 1-I draw. The match was littered

with fouls and yellow cards. Porto's coach, Antonio a second goal six minutes lat-Oliveira, said the incident had er. His goals earned Rangers been reported to Uefs officials present at the game, in which the Portuguese side assured themselves of finishing top of Group D.

Adriano Galliani, a Milan vice-president, said he had spoken to the Porto chairman, Jorge Nuno Pinto da Costa, about the . incident and said that "everything was solved". He added: "We will tell Uefa our version."

tell Uefa our version."

Before Newcastle United's Uefa turnover of 18 players in the sum-Cup tie in Metz on Tuesday mer – and United ended up with an inexperienced Norwegian, an unproven Dutchman and an inconsistent Czech. For all its growing attractiveness the Premiership is still struggling to acquire the overseas élite before they begin thinking of retirement.

could overcome superior continental technique. No longer. Juventus, like Milan, are as committed and hard working as any English side. Their team spirit was underlined when Moreno Torricelli won possession, played a quick one-two with Zidane then slid a pass into the path of yet an-other angled run by Boksic. Pe-ter Schmeichel got there first but,

Norwegian champions, in their last match to easure progress. Atletico Madrid and Borussia Dortmund have qualified from Group B, but the outcome of Group A will be decided by the

per Zurich. Ajax and Auxerre are all level on nine points. The last two matches see Ajax travel to Zurich and Aux-

final round of games. Grasshop-

Ally McCoist yesterday told Television pictures showed how wounded pride inspired players from the two teams. Rangers to end their miserable run. McCoist ended his own four-year wait for a goal in the Champions' League with a 66th minute penalty and scored er. His goals earned Rangers a first victory and a £500,000. Uefa win bonus after from successive defeats.

McCoist said that his team had been fired up by jibes that they were "holiday-makers" by Kubilay Türkyilmaz, the Grasshopper forward, after Rangers suffered a 3-0 defeat against the Swiss champions in Zurich in

McCoist said: Y just felf they to Rosenborg Trondheim, the were there on holiday."

Boksic, the leader of the line
United craved and still need.
Boksic preferred to join the Juventus revolution – they had a recognition of his efforts.

It is not just technique where we are lagging behind, Juninho may have been exaggerating when he said, last week, even the lowiest Italian dub was better organised than an English one, but there was more than a grain of truth. Arsenal and Chelsea are beginning to experience the at-tention to detail which is standard practice on the continent but there is a way to go. While the fitness trainer at Juventus is as important as most of the players, the use of masseurs and dieticians is a new development in England.

Then there is the coaching. Alex Ferguson and Brian Kidd are two of the better tacticians in the Premiership but United, for all their effort, looked static and formulaic compared with Juventus. After Roy Hodgson, Terry Venables and Bobby Robson, how many of our coaches command a worldwide reputation?

But is it their fault? An Enghish chub manager has responsi-bilities from dealing with agents and parents to groundsmen and sponsors. At the lower level, where many learn their trade, they can even find themselves painting the stands. Others come in at the top with little more than B two-week coaching course (if that) and several years personal observation to equip them to be the key figure in a multi-million pound business. The new preparation course for managers is long overdue, an extension of the continental practice of letting coaches coach and club officials deal with peripheral matters would be a further boost.

This lack of knowledge, and lack of time to develop it, has a knock-on effect. Players are short of tactical awareness with the 80s kick and rush era still casting its long shadow. So too has

ing its long shadow. So too has the poor quality of schools and youth coaching, which is only now being remedited.

"We do have fine players and Manchester United and Newcastle may yet quality, along with Liverpool, for the spring stages of their competitions. But it is clear that there is a long way. it is clear that there is a long way to go before we can match the continent's best Meanwhile at Lancaster Gate, the FA's two-year search for a technical director to shape the direction



'Old guard' oppose Venables

Terry Venables is facing a bos-

of national league coaches oppose his hiring for Australia's 1998 World Cup campaign ahead of a domestic candidate. The view is shared by several? recruited the former Barce former internationals and one and Tottenham manager. former national team coach.

qualification for the quarter-fi- wards. They accused us of a lack nak. They need a draw at home of professionalism. They said we reply from the man who nak. They need a draw at home of professionalism. They said we reply from the man who nak. They need a draw at home of professionalism. They said we reply from the man who nak. They need a draw at home of professionalism. They said we reply from the man who nake the professionalism that we have

some negative comments from tile reception from Australia's the old guard... they are critical football establishment over his because we did not choose a loappointment as national team cal," the Soccer Australia chairman, David Hill, said.

An Australian newspaper's "Are they seriously suggest-survey showed that two-thirds ing that we should not have picked the best coach available and overlooked him for a locally based coach?" Hill said on his return from London, where be recruited the former Barcelona

Venables is also determined The criticisms, centred on 10 mans wrong sections of the the decision to allow the former thrists media, who have ques-England descrite spend most lif " noted his decision to join what ' as not "a team leader". ball nation, Hill said.

would love more then to meet England in the World Cup and beat them, for professional rea-

sons of course," Hill said.

A straw poll in the Sydney

Morning Herald yesterday

showed eight Australian national league coaches opposed the appointment, four backed it, and two were undecided. Someone is taking us for a ride, someone who clearly doesn't understand the game," the Mar-coni coach, Manfred Schaefer,

said. The former Australia coach Prank Arok described Venables

clear that there is nothing he England, where he will oversee in January.

Australia's 100-plus overseasbased players, for the duration of his 19-month contract. Under the terms of the deal, Venables will take charge for all of Australia's home and away internationals.

The former Notts County forward and now Brisbane Strikers coach, Frank Farina, is one of Hill's supporters. He said: "Venables will open a lot of doors for the game."

Venables, who resigned as England coach after guiding them to the semi-finals of Euro 96, will take control of Australia the dissenters was concern that nation series against Norway, "Terry Venables has made it Venables would still live in South Korea and New Zealand

King marks Telford's change without a contract at the Buck's Chelsea midfielder Ian Britton

Non-League notebook RUPERT METCALF

managerial casualty this week when he resigned after 18 months in charge of Telford United.

The former Wolves, Birmingham and Everton striker, the younger brother of Allan Clarke (once of Leeds and place in the table, although successor has already been appointed: Jake King, the former Shrewshury, Wrexham and

Cardiff defender. King, who had been assistant manager of the League of Wales A long way down the nonclub, Newtown, will be working League pyramid, the former tomorrow at Brandon United. | lowest-ranked player

not get results he will not be Wayne Clarke became the GM vauxhall Conference's latest Telford for the first time to-

morrow at Dover Athleric. Having been rebuffed by ward when Steve Bull arrived at Graham Roberts, who chose to Molineux 10 years ago, has enremain in charge at the Icis joyed a mixed start as manager League leaders, Yeovil Town, of the Screwitz Direct (Western) Kettering Town yesterday confirmed that their caretaker manager, Steve Berry, can dispense England), leaves the Shrop- with the first part of his joh ti-shire side in a comfortable 11th the Last week Berry steered Ket- guided Bideford to only their tering to their third consecutive they have lost six of their last win when they beat their local seven Conference matches. His rivals Rushden & Diamonds in the Northamptonshire Senior Cup, and tomorrow he will hoping to celebrate his permanent appointment with a home win

over Bromsgrove.

Head, and says that if he does is also embarking on a managerial career - at the North West Counties League Second Division side, Nelson. Dean Edwards, the man dis-

placed as Wolves' centre-for-League team, Bideford, After watching them lose 9-0 at Taunton just after his appointsecond League success of the season on Saturday: a I-O home win over Westbury. On Wednesday, though, they lost 5-1 at Tiverton, who have woo all 13 of their League games this term. Brigg Town, the FA Carlsberg

Vase holders, hegio their de-

Snooker UK CHAMPONSHIP (Preston) Second round: J Parrott (Engl tx M Clark (Engl 9-8: A Hamilton (Engl tx 1) Gray (Engl 9-8; S Dave (Engl tx 3) (Pak) 9-7: K Broughton (Engl tx C Small (Sco) 9-6: A McManus (Sco) tx G

TO TRIBES

ATP WORLD CHAMPIONISTEP (Henover, Germany) White Group: M Chang (US) bt G harmon: (Cros) 6-77-6-6-1. Red group: A Becker (Gert by P Sampras (US) 7-6-7-6.

CHASE CHAMPMONERME'S (Bradison Square Garden, New York) First round: C Martinez (Sp) bt J Wesner (Aut) 6-1.3-6-6-4; A Sanchez Yocano (So) bt J Schulz-McCarby (Neth) 6-4-7-6; J Novotrá (Cz Rep) bt A Coetzer (SA) 6-4-6-1.

Salling Britain's Chris Law has a good chance of a semi-final in the Stenlager Cup with five races to go in the double round robin. Both a much-improved Paul Cayard (US), whining seven out of eight starts in yesterday's 15 to 20 knot wind, and the Dutch Olympian Roy Heiner have scored 10-3, with Law and Neville Wittey (Aus) at 8-5. Chasing is top seed Peter Gimour, 6-7. The top four go into tomornow's best of seven semis, with a further best of seven deciding the winner on Sunday.

WINCANTON

WINCANTON

1.50: 1. WANFARERS WAY (M A Ritgerald) 4-1; 2. Carlvero 25-1; 3. Ashiby Hill 4-6
fix, 5 ran. 1½, 1½. (N Henderson, Lambourn).
Teter, 25:00; £1.20, £9.20. DF: £23.70. CSF:
£47.79.

2.00: 1. Highland Jack (ir Duracon);
6-1; 2. Sironi 9-4 fox: 3. At The Grove 10-1.
12 ran. 2, 12. (Artrian Turnel, Wantage).
Toter, £6.90; £1.90, £1.30, £3.00. DF: £6.90.
CSF: £1.90, £1.30, £1.30. DF: £6.410.
NR: Decor, Mazners Mirror, Ramaltah.
2.30: 1. ARDRE LAVAL (c O'Duyer) 9-4;
2. Beautrepadre 11-2; 3. Rainbow Caselie

WARWICK

1.20: 1. EASTERN RIVER (A Bates) 9-4
tax; 2. Flappick Lad 5-2; 3. Channel Pastime 6-1 6 cm. 13, 7. (T Forster, Downton), Totac 63,00: 62,00, 62,50, Dr. 65,30,
CSF: 63-26.

1.50: 1. SIR PAGEANT (3 Badguster) 10-1;
2. Bright Supplies 10-1; 3. Kethaniso 40-1,
12 cm. 7-2 for Medicetts Cross (501), 2, 5,
(K Bridguster, Logworth), Totac 611,20;
62,60, 63,00, 617-70, Dr. 64,180, CSF:
62,00, 18,00, 617-70, Dr. 64,180, CSF:
62,00, 12, DORNPPEL (I Ment) 7-2; 2. Russemby Patts 7-4 for, 3. Grousseman 6-1, 2
cm., 9, 21 (Mrs. J Coct, Newmarker), Totac
64,50; 62-10, 61,80, Dr. 65,10, CSF:
656, MR. Kraitol.
2.50: 1. DROMINANA 47 PMCOpy 13-8
tax; 2. The Shy Patre 5-1; 3. Anything-positive

tar, 2. The Sty Partie 5-1; 3. Anything-collection of parties 5-1; 3. Anything-collection of parties 5-1, 9 ran. 2, 7. IP Nichols, Shepton Majlett, Totar, 52, 70; £1, 20, £1, 80, £5, 10, DF; £51,0, CSF; £10,17. This; £50,00. E5.10, CSF: £10.17. Tro; £50.00. 3.20: 1. CLASS OF NINETYTYMO (A P Mc-Cuy) 2-1; 2. Milot's Ladly 5-2. 3 rea, evens law Sounds Strong (fell). 2, 7 Forster, Downton). Tother £2.80. DF: £3.00. CSF: £6.11. NR: Full of Ques. 3.50: 1. HURRICANE LAMP (A Magazeri 9-4 It fav. 2, Esnolensk 16-1; 3. Chickenstein 9-4 It fav. 15 rea. 5, 1. (O Nicholson). Tother £4.00; £2.30, £2.60, £1.70. DF: £45.10. CSF: £38.46. Tro: £24.80. Inclinate: £7.100.00 (pool of £4.50.23 to

Jeclepot: £7,100.00 (pool of £4,510.23 to Ascot today).

Garundi beys embittered by World Cup exit

in the part central Africa Inception is the case in many other print of the world, proving in other were being the perils of the received life. In Burundi there were beings that football could do every more, and show

there were needed nation could come together but those hopes just he efforts of their courageous freeling Bandouin Ribeleare, Bandouin Ribeleare,

Spracklen comes back

to Britain

Mike Spracklen, one of Britain's most distinguished coaches, has agreed to return from California, where he was in charge of

the United States Olympic eight, to become the women's

national coach, writes Hugh

Spracklen was a builder in Marlow before becoming a full-time professional coach 12 years

ago, after guiding Steven Red-grave to his first Olympic gold in 1984. He then trained Red-

grave and Andy Holmes to

gold and bronze in Seoul in 1988

in the coxed and coxless pairs. In 1989 he went to Canada as ?

national coach, and after two silver medals in the World Champ-

ionships his eight took the Olympic title in Barcelona in 1992. He then moved to the Unit-

an States and looked likely to re-leat the trick when his eight was inst in the world in 1994. But the City only fluished fifth in Atlants

Matheson.



American football

Steve Young the 35-year-old San Francisco 49ers quarterback, who has suffered two concussions in the last four weeks, will play in Sunday's game against the Redskins in Washington.

Brackminstom
SCOTTISM OPEN (Clanglow) Mem's singles first rounds P G Christensen (Den) to 8 Procinct (Soc) 16-3 15-7; Wes Christ Den) to 8 Procinct (Soc) 16-3 15-7; Wes Christ De 16 Action (Soc) 15-11-1 (Soc) 16-1 (Soc) 15-7 15-12; M Beese (Can) bt T Hubricole (Oer) wid: B tristjensen (Soc) bt T Hubricole (Oer) wid: B tristjensen (Soc) bt T Hubricole (Oer) wid: B tristjensen (Soc) 15-11-5; T Howeld (Palo) bt C Robertson (Soc) 15-11-15-7; A Bossen (Den) bt C Robertson (Soc) 15-11-15-7; A Bossen (Den) bt C Robertson (Soc) 15-13-7; T Howeld (Can) bt S Brambani (Can) 15-4 15-21 (Sod) G (Can) bt S Bessel (Soc) 15-4 15-6; T Howeld (Soc) 15-13-15-7; R Dobrig (Eng) bt L Cren (Chris) wid; P Howeld (Soc) 15-10 (Soc) 15-11-6; T Howeld (Soc) bt C Bessel (Soc) 15-4 15-6; P Minories (Eng) bt T Nielsen (Ibo) 15-1 15-4; J Xing-Peng (Chris) at T Wesper (Swet) 15-5 15-12. Western's Soc) 15-4 15-6; White Man (Chris) bt T J Julien (Can) 11-13 (Swet) (Soc) bt K Sommen (Can) 11-13 (Swet) (Soc) bt K Sommen (In) bt J Welmont (Eng) 11-2 13-8; E Chefin (Eng) bt V Aggistadout (Ge) 11-9-13 (In) 11-9 (Soc) bt K S Cossee (Inn) 11-9 13-1.

Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen acored 37 points apiece as Chicago Bulls neeled off their 11th straight win in the NBA. Bulls won 113-99 away to Phoenix Suns, whose 10th straight defeat marked their worst ever start to a season.

Basketball

teams. We would have a case. The translation in Burundi's one fact stot, the least state and a sure allege a plot by Kazadi havelandow said. If, for the This extremists to was not to be, though, and a sure team coached by Ribekare, a Hutu-theinforce matches at mounts. Ribakare, who spent seven ventices because of the bride years playing and coaching in spiced annual conflict within the Germany, is butter. That them the inflorme matches at notices. Ribakare, a Hututhe inflorme matches at notices. Ribakare, who spent seven
venties because of the policy of

everybody plays together. It was from the World Cup.

The only thing we had.

After beating Sierra Leone approved the extra funding but it was too late. The two of linearize round, Burnindi were ficials who had sent the man.

na. Gabon and Morocco. We main unclear. Some fans claim had nothing to fear from those they were brided by one of the

Roxing

Football

eration sent a fax to Fefa saying country needed me.
that Burundi were withdrawing . Now Ribakare may in

, Now Ribakare may move

abroari again, while his players mourn their lost opportunities.
Our football did something positive for the image of country," Mwilambwe said. "Now ficials who had sent the man, try," Mwlambwe said. Now thoused far were sacked, but they've screwed it up, the whole the motives for their actions re. country losses."

Rupert Metcalf

SPORTING DIGEST

Rugby 2 Corby 1. Southern Division: Besttey 1 Waterlookie 2; Derford 1 Fisher Adletic 4. Screwitz Direct League Premier
Division: Twenton 6 Bioleford 1. North West
Counties League First Division: Citherce
1 Nerountie Town 1; Permith 1 Presont Cablets 0; St. Helens 2 Bootle 3. Jewnon Wessex, League Petrasfield Offenschund 1. FA
Youth County 0; Pyrounti Argue 3 Baghton
O; Wyombe Wanderen 5 Cornotaen 0; Fulterm 0 Gillinghom 3; Weiling 0 Wolves 1. First
yound septing Bordham Wood 1 Erfield 2.
Autop Insurance Combination League ConColod Uni 1 Centiff 0; Swindon 0 Bestol Roses
O, Pontins League Premier Division: Tranmite 2 Ottham 2. First Division: Preston 1
Bischood 0; Sunderland 2 West Brom 3. Third
Division: Wight 2 Bury 2. 7-UP TROPPHY: Manchester Glants 72 Chester Jats 83: Tharnes Valley Tigers 86 (Arens 26, Boone 19, Scartisbury 17) Worthing Beans 76 (Harnition 25, Leide 19, Thomas 18). Boxing
Felix Trinidad, the International Boxing
Fedration welterweight champion, will
fight aritain's Kevin Lueshing and
Frankle Randoll, the World Boxing Associetion funior welterweight title holder, will face Knelid Rahibou of France on
11 January in Nashville. The bill also
features the World Boxing Council
champion, Terry Nords, against Nick
Rupa of Canada and the unbesten
heavyweight comender, Henry Aknwarde, against fellow Englishman Scott
Welch.

Golf

GONT

AUSTRALIAN OPEN (Sydney) Leading Eastround scores (Nas univer stated): 67 G Normen, 68 K Einsson (Swel, 69 R Seephens,
70 G Evens (CB), W Gredy, O Howell (CB), B
Penticip, R Green, 71 R Dail, R Marte (Net),
72 A Pointer, D Smell (P2), A Percy, J-L Goopy
(Fi), P Marshell, I Cooper, P Marshell, S Ahor (R2), Soleculed: 78 P McChriety IAI, R Bouat (CB), T R Gooden (SA), 79 T Woods (US),
O Frost (SA).

EUROPEAN TOUR QUALIFYING SCHOOL
Leading first-round scores (GB or M arrives stated): San Roques of M Google Vust.
68 J Backeron, 69 M Anglert (Shel); J Grothager (Swel; G Sherry, 70 J Healey, TJ GJ
Brand; S McAlleste, A Tat. T2 A Best: F Anderson (Swel; R Sherry, 70 J Healey, TJ GJ
Brand; S McAlleste, A Tat. T2 A Best: F Anderson (Swel; N Briggs; D Lynn; S Henderson; J McHerry, M Marshell (D); R Windreser,
S Mastisch (Swel; A Henselin (Deri); A Hers; E
Statesk (Gert; M Schotz (SA); J Quaros (Sp);
H P Thust-(Gert; G Owert P Hybres; Cswel; D
A Russes], M Ute; C Port (Den); M McLear;
S Thompson; A Rest R Victor (Fr), T4 S Berrate; I & Bond; P Sherman; E Grabber (Swel); A
Hudwell; B Pappes (SA); W Hewkelt; O Lee;
M Plummer, R Insurch; D McLercoz (Aus).
TS J Hagers, B Marchien (US); I Bertretor (Debson (Fr); M Miller; M Person (Swel); C Ronald;
B May (US); O Perhan; J Stochkomer (Neth).
T7 J Canel; P Archer, I R Lonce; J Cool; M
Stanford; A Muntoch; I R Lonce; J Cool; M
Stanford; A Muntoch; I R Lonce; J Cool; M
Stanford; A Muntoch; I R Schotz; J Robinson;
N Rodenok, 76 F Elszyra (II); B Harcheon; M
Nchots; D Wellerns; M Sant (II); B Harcheon; M
Nchots; D Wellerns; M Sant (II); B Harcheon; M
Nchots; D Wellerns; M Sant (II); B Harcheon; M
Nchots; D Wellerns; M Sant (II); G Harcheon; M
Nchots; D Wellerns; M Sant (II); B Harcheon; M
Nchots; D Wellerns; M Sant (II); B Harcheon; M
Lindytti (Swel; K Skepony (Cz Rep), 81 E
Littis; P Way

Sotogrande: 65 8 Davis. 67 M Thompson; 8 Trining (Den). 68 0 Popen (Nor); J Svid (Swe); A Cruse (SA); G Gerbero (US). 69 G Chaimers (Aust). 70 J Hodgson: S Aban (Mus); A Cleer; J Wade (Aust); G Baruffeld (ct); A Braghi (tt); F Under (Swe); M Scarpe (tt); O Cole (Aust). 71 J Popen (Sol); C Dron (Swe); M Yester: N Fasth (Swe); L Ismes: A Lebouc (Fr); S Deingrungs (Fr); D Westermark (Swe); P Golding; J Handsworth; M Carmen (Aug); A Mus (Fr); G Nichtsus (US); R Jacquelin (Fr); S Petrobono (D); A De Sha (Br); S Watson; P Golding; J Handsworth; M Garrier, T3 O Edmond (Fr); M Graniets; (Swe); K Stone (SA); A Hagund (Swe); D Estaten (Gr); A Weit M Weich; K Tomon (Impan); J M Carrier (SA); A Hagund (Swe); D Estaten (Gr); A Weit M Weich; K Tomon (Impan); J M Carrier (SA); A Hagund (Swe); D Selbey; K Jacre; E Graud (Fr); T Lavel (Fr); M Weis; C Whitelow; S Internation (Fr); T Lavel (Fr); M Weis; C Van der Velde (Nath); A Carrier (Mg). 76 G Harmerton; N Kialogister (Fr); M Latine; S Tinning (Den); D Musscoh; C Haltfren (US); C Van der Velde (Nath); A Carrier (Mg). 76 G Harmerton; N Kialogister (Fr); M Latine; Swe); T Pandin (Fr); O Selberg (Swe); P Rystom (Swe); E Book (NZ); J Wilshire; A Sobrinho (Port; J Garning (US); P Nyman (Swe); R J Deristen (Neth); P Freedander (Swe).

ice hockey NHL: Hartford 3 Montreal 1: Florida 4 Les An-gales 1; Colorado 6 Phoenix 0; Dellas 3 Cal-gary 1; Anahern 2 MY Islanders 2 (st).

FORS CHYLOPHUS
LITTLEWOODS Treble chancer 24pts
£407, 70, 23 £17,05, 22 £1,25, Half-time
result £23,3235, Four draws £3,00, Ten
homes £511,35, Five draws £3,00, Ten
homes £511,35, Five draws £948,50.
VERNONS: Treble chance: £4pts £120,70,
28pts £7,95, Super Shorts £2,35, Premäer
10 £215,00.
BRITTENS: Treble chance: £4 score draws
and thrae no scores draws one dividend
only, £4pts £20,45, Four draws £6,55, Twe
sweep £38,80. Eight homes £94,20.
ZETTENS Treble chance: £4pts £33,10, 23 EXPLAIN TROOPS LEGIT FORMS 154-20.

ZETTERS Troble thence: 24sts E33-10, 23
12.20, 14 125-15, 13 17.45. Four everys
129.80, 8 homes 1247.40. Five draws
16.00. Super 7 5212.00. Lucky numbers
24 32 25 33 22 12.

Rugby League

Rugby Union

Jornathen Hewker has become the first top-level pisyer to move between Weish ckubs for a transfer fee by Johning Ebbw vale from Newbridge in a £5,000 deal, despite Newbridge onginally wanting £20,000 for the centre.

Brits Andrews, arguebly the first bist ing £20,000 for the centre.

Rob Andrew, ergusely the first big earner in the professional game, returns to the ameteur renks end his old university when he plays for Midkey Steele-Bodger's XV against Cambridge next Wednesday, Andrew, the director of nugby at Newcastle, will be partnered at half-back by his club colleague Steve Battes, while Shephen Rodgers, son of Cambridge coach Torty, is at hooker. Cambridge coach long, is at nooker.

MICKEY STEELS-BOBERTS XV (r Cambridge University, Wednesday ZT November): A Buzza (Reprehent): M Hatten (Retunnord, M Bock T Whitelers) (Retunnord, S Batte (Newscastle): S Brann (Bactord) S Rodgers (Retunnord, N Lianett (Wortester), J Daniel (Weington): C Simpson (Durgarnor), S Sunder (September Conference), M Batch I Morrison (London Scottes).

Son Scottish).
WORLD CUP SEVENS Qualifiers (Dubat): Pool As Fe 26 Rusen 12: Rusen 36 Battware 3: Botssare 0 Fet 70. Pool B: South Africe 54 Makeyar 0: Carch Republic 24 Makeyar 12: Rusen Republic 5 South Africe 73. Pool C: Tongo 36 Denmark 17: Respect 17: Cereman 17: Respect 17: Cereman 17: Respect 17: Sample 18: Respect 18: Cereman 18: Respect 18: Res

TODAY'S NUMBER

The years since England went into a rugby international with five new caps, as they will do against Italy at Twickenham to-

RACING RESULTS

2.30: 1. ANDRE LAVAL (C O'Dwyer) 9-4;
2. Beaumparke 11-2; 3. Rainbow Castle
100-30. 4 ran. 6-4 for the Melle (4th.) 1/4,
4. (K Bailey, Upper Lambourni, Totae £2.90;
£3.10. Of: £9-20. CSF: £11.56. NRS:
Flastrincesh, Mr Inador, Tug of Peace.
2.00: 2. BACKSTOCK (T Descombe) 3-1;
2. Pher From Paciny 4-5 fax; 3. Hamilton
Sife 1-2. 4 ran. 2. dat. (R Hodges, Somerton). Totae £4.20. DF: £3.20. CSF: £5.80.
3.30: 2. (MOYS PROMISSE (T Descombe)
8-1: 2. Bridepark Rose 11-4: 3. by The Tempo 16-1. 4 ran. 4-9 fay Second Coll (4th.)
M. dat. (C Popham, Taunton). Totae £5.10.
DF: £9.50. CSF: £28.26. NR: Gumda.
4.00: 2. KULMINGTON IP Hide 11-2; 2.
Castala Back 9-4; 3. Attantatic 10-1. 11 ran.
8-5 fay Hungers Rock (5th). 3. 5th. In. U Gr.
ford, Findoni. Totae: £5.20; £1.30, £1.70,
£2.20. OF: £9.70. CSF: £18.39. Trick
£39.50. NR: MillerSond, Southeas Scandak.
Placepack £12,540.10 ipport of £4.408.01 Present: £12,540.10 (poor of £4,408.01 to Ascot today). Quarkpot: £1,444.20 (pool of £487.93 to Ascot today).

ce 6: £2,435,74. Place 5: £474.67.

Valencia have appointed lorge Valdano, the former Argentine international forward, as their new coach in succession to Luis Aragones. Valdano, a World Cup winner in 1986, took Rael Madrid to the Spanish League title in 1995, but was secked last season.

MIERNATIONAL FRIENDLY (Los Argeles): Metico 3 (Hermosilo 12, Pelez 29, Ramirez 85) E salvador 1 (Rodriguez 73).

WEDNESSAY'S LATE RESILITS: European Cop Champions' League Broup A: Apa 1 Austra 2; Rangers 2 Grassnoper Zurich 1. Group B: Steasa Suchares; 1 Albeito Medic 1. Weben Lot 2 Bround Domining C. Grandbace 1 Rapid Varies C, Monchet 1. Rodrigues Steas Copies C, Monchet 1. Rodrigues Steas De Porto 1 Miles 1. Rosenbog Tomber in HR Gottenburg O, FA Carling Premitembles Liverpool 1. Enternative Charlen 2 Brimington 1. Presiponets Spike v Wokes. Second Division: Miles 1 Instituted Language Cip Second Troub Language Cip Second Troub Canding Challenge Cip Second round: Callenge Premiter - Division: Salisbury 1. Miles Miles of Division: Salisbury 1. Salisburg 1. Salisburg 2 Stourbridge 2: VS season.

The Houston Rockets centre. Hakeem Diajuwon, was released from hospital yesterday but was expected to be out. of action for up to a week having suffered an irregular hearthest that strice the mid-1980.

The British women 's squadhas risen to the from ranks in the last five years more recently under the guidance of Billy Mason of Imperial College. The Castleford full-back lisson Flowers has been put on the transfer list at £120,000 after asking for a move. The 21-year-old was the Tigers' leading try-scorer last season with 10 in 16 apmonow: The last time such an nexperienced team took the field was against Romania in Mason of Imperial College

Best fires untimely broadside at Rowell

sport

CHRIS HEWETT

English rugby's extraordinary it would be easier to find a sense ability to walk straight from one of harmony at The Ridings public relations disaster to another reached new levels of expertise yesterday as Dick Best, a former national coach and current top dog at the League embarrassing swipe at the en-tire Twickenham hierarchy.

Just 48 hours before England's opening international of the season against Italy, Best claimed that the Rughy Football Union had little faith in Jack Rowell, the present coach, and described an unspecified number of RFU members as "gutless".

Coming on top of the gov-eming hody's bitter wrangle with its own senior clubs, Best's outhurst was further proof that it would be easier to find a sense School in Halifax.

Yesterday should have been about Chris Sheasby, the Wasps loose-forward who was called up to face the ftalians when Ben leaders Harlequins, took an Clarke's dead leg forced his withdrawal from the side. Sbeasby will win his first cap

in his customary position of No 8, with Tim Rodber shifting to the blindside flank. Martin Corry, the Bristol captain. comes in on the bench. Sadly, Sheasby's delight was

undermined by Best's decision to plant a depth-charge direct-

In an interview with the mag-azine Rugby News he said: "I don't think Rowell will be either coach or manager by the time of the next World Cup in 1999. The RFU have got to invest in him hut the problem is I don't believe they have much faith in him. You don't give someone a one-year contract if you have confidence in him, do you? It tells me that at the end of the season it's probably 'Good-night Irene'."

Best, who lost his own coaching role with England when Rowell reshuffled his panel after the 1994 tour of South Africa, has thrown darts at his old adversary before. This keep their counsel, but both

flame-thrower by saying: "He avoids me at all costs. Rowell has avoided confrontation all

his life - he did not even tell me himself that I was out - and that is why he has never spoken to me since I was dismissed. He has never telephoned mc about my Harlequins players. He just can't bring himself to do it." At least some of the players

who participated in the 1994 tour privately believe that Best was badly treated: others, on the other hand, found the whiff of sour grapes almost over-powering yesterday. Understandably, even the most senior squad members decided to

pelled to respond.

amused as he put his players through their paces at Twickenham - "I don't understand the motivation of people who seek to disrupt the national team," he said - while Derek Morgan, chairman of the National Playing Committee, insisted that the RFU was "wholeheartedly behind Jack and his team". RFU sources said they would be studying Best's comments before decid-

into disrepute. Sheasby added to the furore by saying that his close-season

ing whether he might be

charged with bringing the game

from club player to interna-tional. "If I had stayed at Harlequins, I would have been pushed by certain people and that would not have gone down well with England in the current climate," he said. Clearly, Sheasby believes that any recommendation from Best would have

been disregarded by Rowell. Somewhere in the midst of the gunsmoke, Phil de Glanville was attempting to assert his au-thority as England's new cap-tain by focusing the minds of his players on the task in hand. As ever, the coolly collected Bath centre was a paragon of diplomacy - as far as we are concerned, this is a non-issue, he said. But there was no hiding

had been crucial in his elevation

With five new caps in the side De Glanville has enough on his plate without having to digest unpalatable attacks by former coaches. He is, however, sufficiently skilled as a leader to turn negatives into positives; if his players were not climbing the walls to get at Italy before Best's intervention, they cer-

tainly are now. "Winning is the first and only priority," the captain said. "We need the new guys to contribute from minute one. There will be no honeymoon period for them. It has to be straight in because the Italians are very skilled at half-back, well organised defensively and are ca-

"If there was ever any clim-placency in this camp, it's down long gone. To my mind, the flarians are good enough to turn the Five Nacions tournament into a Six Nations and they will be com-

ing here to prove exactly that.

The Italians, who suffered complications of their own yesterday as their planned from from Florence was cancelled at short notice, will not experience Twickenham at its most intimidating. Only 40,000 tickets had been sold last night and, unusually, the RFU will put the remainder on sale on Saturday in an effort to maximise husiness at the turnstiles.

Baa-Baas ready to run, page 30

Spencer joins QPR for £2.5m

Football **NICK DUXBURY**

John Spencer yesterday took his goalscoring skills a short distance across west London when he left Chelsea to join Queen's Park Rangers for £2.5m.

The 26-year-old Spencer was Chelsea's top scorer with 13 Premiership goals last season having been joint top scorer the previous campaign. However, the 5ft 6in striker has been frozen out following the Ruud Gullit revamp which saw Gianluca Vialli partnering Mark Hughes up front.

Spencer's departure may not be the first. Mark Stein, Gavin Peacock, Eddie Newton and David Rocastle all appear to be surplus to requirements and Dennis Wise's future has been in doubt this week.

The transfer of Spencer, who arrived at Stamford Bridge in a £450,000 move from Rangers in 1992, has helped Chelsea to balance the books following last week's £4.5m signing of a third

Italian, Gianfranco Zola. For First Division Rangers, Spencer's capture, coming soon after Trevor Sinclair's decision to withdraw his transfer re-

ton, the QPR manager, said of his first signing. "He has a good background and is a quality player with experience. Alan Shearer reputation as when strode back into the New castle team for tomorrow' ame at Chelsea.

player returns to the Premiership just one month after his second groin operation and was described by the Newcas-tle spokesman, Graham Courtney, as being "fit as a fiddle" His comeback is a timely one for the Premicrship leaders with from playing after an operation for a depressed cheekbone.

With Shearer and Ferdinand

If all goes well in talks today, striker Huckerby, who started his career with Lincoln City and ton Villa tomorrow.

probably not please Coventry's bank manager. The club lost nearly £8m for the year ended last May, the result of spending £7.8m on players and a subsequent rise in the wage hill of £1.7m to £5.7m.

international charges, the Aus-"I'm sure he'll be a great astralian keeper Marc Schwarzer, set to this club," Stewart Houshas turned down Manchester City and joined Bradford City Schwarzer, who will cost Bradord £300,000 from Dynamo Dresden, will make his debut at Charlton tomorrow. the world's fastest healer was

The world's most expensive Les Ferdinand weeks away

around. Darren Huckerby has decided his only chance of first -team action lies at the other end of the table with Coventry.

joined Newcastle for £400,000 12 months ago, will agree a £1m transfer and could make his Coventry debut at home to As-Huckerby's acquisition will

Cantona eclipsed, page 31

Woods has to iron out flaws after worst round



False start: Tiger Woods drives for the fairway as he slumped to the worst round of his short professional career yesterday, to finish 12 shots behind Greg Norman after the first day of the Australian Open. The 20-year-old American carded a seven-over-par 79 at the Australian Golf Club course in Sydney, while Norman scored a 67.

professional two months ago, struggled for accuracy around the Jack Nicklaus-designed course. His previous highest as a professional was a 78 at the Tour Championship in Oklahoma last month. "My good shots turned out bad, and my bad shots turned out horrible,"

Woods said. "I tried my heart out, I just couldn't execute the shots, I was out of rhythm." Another round in the high 70s or 80s today would see Woods miss the cut after being reportedly paid more than £150,000 in

appearance fees. Scores, Digest, page 31. Photograph: Ross Land/Empic

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



I Impromptu expression of dis-satisfaction with shirt-maker?

6 Introductions for books usually mean further paperwork

ACROSS

One who finishes trio mean! for recomposition? Right

10 Insect burrowing into leaf re-peatedly? (4)

12 The most recent development in explosives technology? (4, 2, 2, 4)

15 Mostly lack appeal in performance, like unaccompanied choirs (1.8) 17 Something linked with TV

show that is presented in a can (3-2) 18 Unusual type of horse runs to 3

river (5)

19 One who's not constrained mation found in newspaper

Fruit and vegetables used to be supplied by this stage to. 14 Former partner's in the morning paper (4)

small number quit flat (10) 8 Struggle to embrace bird – it cate one not acting illegally 11 It incorporates us in a more (3-7)26 Repast that finally is extract-

13 Shout about a boy dressing ed fron tin? (4) 14 Opera: vital aria without one 27 Unhappy sad male swallowing a very soft lump in the in error gets cheers (2, 8) 16 Fellow due to tangle with a

DOWN Grain vessels heading off (4) 21 True, millions can be found in Rage makes you pelt over yard (4) 22 Speech defect is evident in

Man, one taking on charge presented by progenitor? (4, 33 Unpleasant look of headless

White to the rescue

Cricket

MYLES HODGSON reports from Melbourne England A 231-4 v Victoria

Cruig White produced his most accomplished innings in England colours to help the A team out of trouble and into a commanding position on the opening day of their four-day match with Victoria at Melbourne's Optus Oval stadium

yesterday. The Yorkshire player, who last played for England in the sixth and final Test against the West Indies at Trent Bridge in August last year, re-established his credentials for the Test allrounder's place with an un-beaten 92 as the tourists reached 231 for 4 at the close. White's vital contribution, which included crucial part-

nerships with both Mark Butcher and Adam Hollioake, enabled England to recover from losing Michael Vaughan, Anthony McGratb and Owais Shah, which had left them struggling on 59 for 3. White, dropped twice on 45

and 85, overcame numerous

weather interruptions to steer the tourists out of trouble with a 78-run stand with Butcher. who fell for 55 after being brilliantly stumped by the wicketkeeper Peter Roach off the off-spinner Brad Hodge. White continued his assault

nings lasting more than three hours, to finish just eight short of England A's first century of the tour having combined with Hollioake (45no) in an unbroken 94run fifth-wicket partnership.

To batt M A Editom, tW K Hogg, A F Gles. G Chapple, OW Headley. Bowling: Fleming 18-6-27-1; Saler 14-2-36-1; Dodernade 19-6-31-1; Harvey 14-1-55-0; Stacey 10-1-50-0; Hodge 4-0-15-1; Harver 3-0-13-0, WCTORAL "A I C Dodernade, W G Ayers, 2 J Hodge, M R Foster, L O Harper, I J Harvey, OW Fleming, OJ Saler, 2J Stacey, G RVmpari, IP J Roach. esc G T Morrow and i W Stratford.

Scudamore eclipsed by McCoy

Racing

4 Family gathering's beginning

with the sound of a bell (5) Idiot made a meal of going round tee with putter, initially

-driver should be seen here!

may be hrothers in love! (10)

7 Nude dancing, during which a

prominent case (5, 7)

girl in difficulties? (9)

country (5)

recording (4)

goblin (4)

GREG WOOD

National Hunt jockey, reached a century of winners in a season faster than any rider in jump racing history yesterday when he partnered Class Of Ninetytwo end of last season, just 12 to victory in a handicap chase at Warwick. He beat the previous record, held by Peter Scudamore and set in both 1988

Tony McCoy, the champion

and 1989, by 30 days. Were he not such a consummate sportsman, however, Scudamore might be tempted to demand a stewards inquiry, since McCoy's achievement rests on the date of his 100th winner, rather than the number of days taken to ride it. The recent introduction of National Hunt racing during the summer. with the season deemed to start in June rather than August, has moved the goalposts significantly, and while McCoy need-

ed 331 rides to reach three fig-ures, Scudamore took just 290 in 1989.

None the less, yesterday's new mark will be seen as the latest milestone in a British riding career which has yet to reach its third hirthday. McCoy claimed his first senior riders' title at the months after running away with



McCoy: Fastest to century go at beating his 221." of jump racing victories

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the championship for condi-tional jockeys, and at 22 is al-ready established as one of the finest pilots of his generation.

"Three years ago I couldn't imagine getting 100 rides, let alone 100 winners," McCoy said. "If I can keep up the momentum, retaining the title is the big aim, and it would be nice to ride some big winners along the way too."

Martin Pipe, the champion trainer, played a leading role in the record-hreaking season of both Scudamore and McCoy, and with his assistance, Scudamore's most impressive achievement, the 221 winners he rode in a single season, may also be within McCoy's reach.

"Obviously Peter was an unbelievable rider and it is fantastic to beat the record that he set," McCoy said. "My main concern is staying in one piece hut if things go well I'd have a

It's thin. (But not a lightweight).



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